The TV-TS

Tapestry

$12.00 U.S.

the journal for all persons interested in crossdressing and transsexualism

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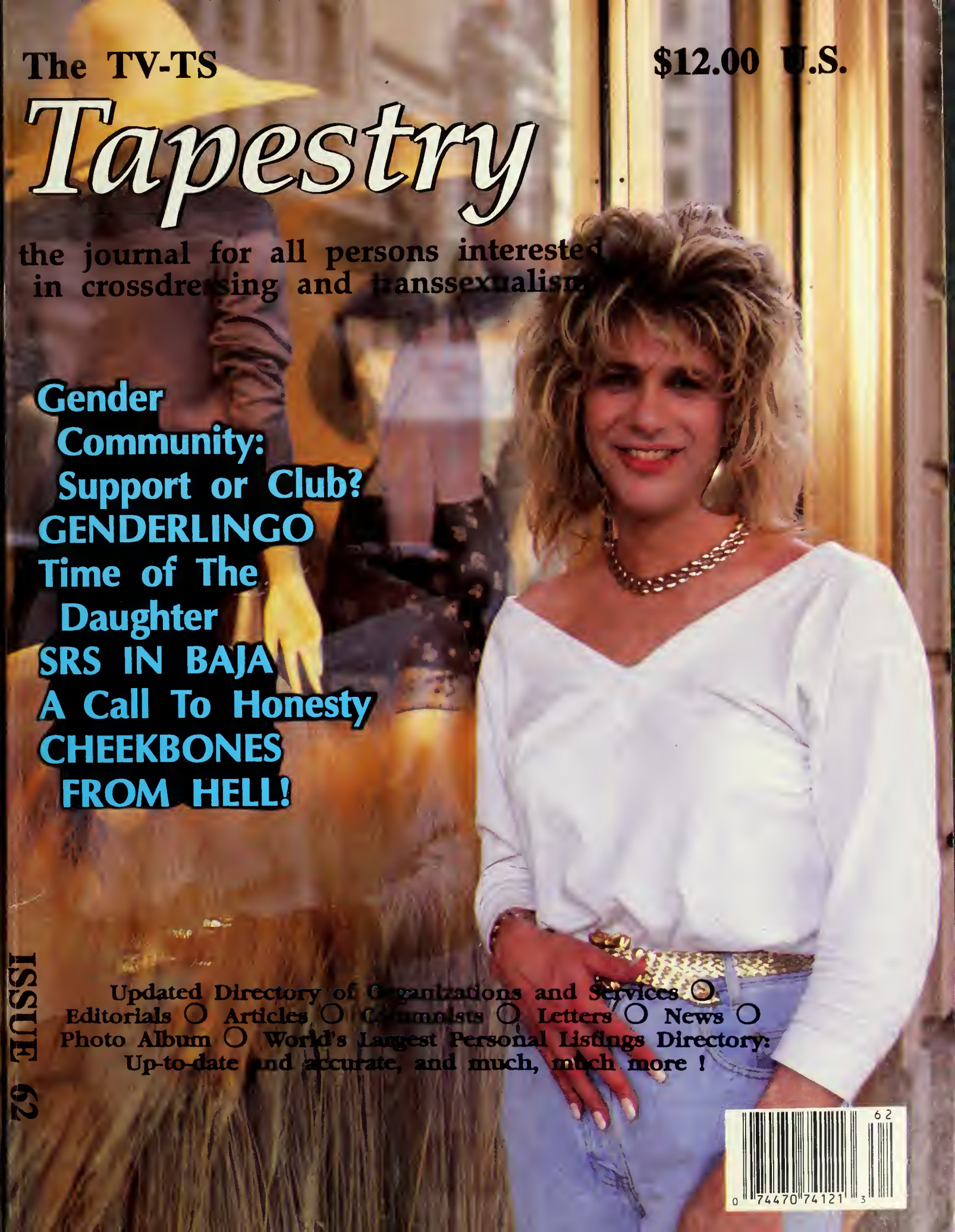

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ISSUE 62

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The TV-TS

Tapestry

the journal for all persons interested in crossdressing and transsexualism

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EDITORIAL INTRODUCTION

A few weeks ago I was in the audience for the show *Night Talk with Jane Whitney*. The topic was Religious Intolerance. Jane's guests included Sister Mary Elizabeth, an Episcopal nun who had had conflicts with her church because of her transsexualism, Father Jim, a gay Anglican priest who was outed by his bishop with disastrous results, and a Catholic priest and nun who were removed from those services because they fell in love and were married. They were joined by Father Peter, an Episcopal religious extremist.

Listening to Father Peter was like watching a cheap horror movie, except it was real. What made it truly terrifying was to realize there are thousands of Father Peters out there, and some of them are trying to push through legislation that would legitimize their hateful views. For instance, in Colorado there is the proposed Amendment #2. This amendment to the Colorado State Constitution would legalize discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation (that includes all of us), and would forbid any Colorado citizen from ever again voting on any ordinance that would provide protection for any member of the gay community or our community. Scary isn't it? It gets worse.

In Oregon there is Ballot Measure 9. This is a proposal to amend the Oregon State Constitution to legalize discrimination. It is a proposal sponsored by a powerful group of people who oppose basic human rights for lesbian and gay people. (That includes people perceived to be lesbian or gay, which includes us. We are all in the same boat on this one.) These people would prohibit all governments from promoting, encouraging, or facilitating homosexuality or perceived homosexuality. Think about this for a minute. The Oregon State Constitution would officially declare us to be abnormal. Any government agency could deny services to any individual or group thought to support us. All books and magazines thought to promote homosexuality would be banned from libraries. No related topic could be discussed on television. State licensing agencies could legally discriminate against any person perceived to be homosexual or who runs a business for gay people. The licensing boards would have to revoke licenses to individuals deemed abnormal. Charitable contributions from gay people would be disallowed. Gay people seeking counseling would be taught they were abnormal. The court would be required to remove children from parents perceived to be gay. Intolerance, hatred, fear ... it goes on and on.

As I listened to Father Peter speak, it was as though he personally wrote Amendment #2 and Ballot Measure 9. I felt chills. God created people different to give the world balance, and here was a person who claimed to believe in God using God to promote hatred, and to justify keeping the world out of balance. It seems so simple to me. Homosexuality is a natural phenomenon. Like cross-dressing and transsexualism, homosexuality has been a fundamental part of the human experience as long as there has been a human experience. It has been found in every society, and in every walk of life throughout history. Yet, ignorance and intolerance, especially religious intolerance, continue to cost good people their happiness, their jobs, their families, and, far too often, their lives. They cost society its neighbors, its friends, and productive citizens. I have dedicated my life to overcoming this devastating ignorance and to helping people learn respect for other people's differences. I eagerly ask others to do the same. Human lives and the creation of a harmonious balanced society free from hate depend on it.

One final comment. While we work to overcome society's ignorance and bigotry, let us not forget to overcome our own.

My love to you all,

Merissa L. Lynn

For additional information concerning Amendment #2, contact: The Gender Identity Center of Colorado, 3715 West 32nd Ave., Denver CO 80211.
For additional information concerning Ballot Measure 9, contact: The Northwest Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 4928, Portland OR 97208.

COVERGIRL STORY

by Dee Dee Ann Summers

Currently, I am the president of Long Island Femme Expression (LIFE), a support group and social club for heterosexual crossdressers and their loved ones. I am also a founding member of LIBER-T's, a new open group for the entire Long Island Gender Community. In addition, together with the leaders of various other gender-related groups in the New York City area, I have been involved in the formation of the Greater New York Gender Alliance. This coalition is proud to announce New York City's first Gender Convention, Midnight in Manhattan, the weekend of April 23-25, 1993.

Like most others, I have been a crossdresser for as far back as I can remember, and have traveled that familiar road of denial, guilt and self-destructive behavior before finally coming to terms with myself and accepting myself for being who I am! From my experiences I realize that while we all share a common bond, each of us is a unique and special individual. It is the common bond of our past struggles that provides the glue that holds this community together to collectively weather the storms we must face. It is the diversity of our sisterhood that provides the beauty in our world, like the many different flowers in a springtime meadow.

With New York City and Long Island as my backdrop, over the past couple of years I have been out *en femme* to the theater, nightclubs, sightseeing, dining, shopping, museums, trying to have as much of a good time as possible. I have met many lovely sisters in our area, through LIFE and at various nightspots around town, and have made many close and wonderful friendships.

One of the most pleasant aspects of my crossdressing is that my lovely and supportive wife of one and one-half years has begun taking a more active rôle in my activities. We have been out together as two "girls" more and more frequently. This has brought us closer together than I ever imagined two people could be.

If all this seems almost too good to be true, sometimes I still have to pinch myself to make sure I'm not dreaming. As recently as three years ago, I still lacked the courage and resolve to step forward and deal with my crossdressing in a positive and constructive manner.

The greatest gift that we can give to each other is one of love, understanding and support. Whether you are a TV, TS, TG, GG or whatever, never forget where you came from, and that you were once the new girl in town, nervous, confused and dealing with major issues. Be willing to lend a new sister a helping hand. Give your love and support. After all

> A bell is no bell till you ring it
> A song is no song till you sing it . . .
> and love in your heart isn't put there to stay,
> because love isn't love till you give it away.

What the future will bring me, I'm not sure. I only know that with each new step I take as Dee Dee, I make it a point to stop to appreciate how far I've come to be able to fulfill dreams that used to exist only in my most secret thoughts.

I am not trying to minimize the difficulties that all of us face in our unique lifestyle. It is <u>never easy</u> for any of us. That's why it is so important for each of us to share, and to give to others in our Community. I am personally thankful for the wonderful sisters who helped support me and guide me through my early steps out of the closet. I truly cherish the close friends who are now an integral part of my life. I hope that by <u>my</u> example I can repay the favor to the next sister who may be just now emerging.

The real beauty of each one of us is not in how well we dress, or how pretty we may look, or whether we "pass," but in our <u>humanity</u>, and all the shades of difference that "humanity" encompasses.

Mary Lynne White

Dancing the Dance of Anger

(Mary Lynne White works as an image consultant and counselor for members of the gender community. She teaches color coordination, makeup application, and comportment. In addition, she works with individuals to help them create a better sense of balance and self-acceptance of both their masculine and their feminine energies. If you have any questions or suggested topics for discussion, contact her at 117 Wedgewood Drive, Jacksonville NC 28546, (919) 353-1972.)

Fear and anger go hand-in-hand. All anger stems from fear. Fear places us on alert, teaching us to pay attention to what's happening in our lives. Unfortunately, many of us allow fear to run our lives, keeping us from being honest with ourselves and with others. We often ignore the warning signals. They get muffled as we develop patterns for denying and suppressing our fear. "It's okay . . . Nothing's wrong . . . I'll keep busy and it will go away . . . I don't need to dress anymore." This unconscious, generalized fear paralyzes us. We're afraid of what we might lose. Attached to what we have (even when it doesn't bring us joy and inner peace), we numb ourselves into a living death to protect ourselves from feeling discomfort. Fear keeps us from realizing our full potential. How many times have we wanted to do something that was dear to our hearts and didn't because we were afraid of how others might respond? How did we feel about this later? Was it really okay, or was there the slightest tinge of resentment or anger? Together, they single-handedly destroy relationships. That's why we need to look at how anger gets in the way of the very thing we want the most -- **acceptance and love**. What is this emotion anger? How does it develop? What does it do? How can we resolve or minimize it?

In her book, *Map to Ecstacy*, Gabrielle Roth tells us, " . . . anger is the most disallowed, unapproved emotion in our society, and it is therefore the most repressed." From an early age we are taught to " . . . behave, be nice, and get along." Young children are naturally open and honest, telling it like it is (from their perception). If they are not allowed to express their emotions, they shut down, building walls around themselves. What goes into hiding behind these walls is the true nature or self of these young children, that part representing spontaneity, creativity, intuitiveness, playfulness, and emotions and feelings. A false or codependent self emerges in its place. You know what it is: that part of yourself masking your true feelings with a smile or a blank look. We don't want people to see our fear and pain. We shy away from most forms of conflict. We **think** this approach will keep people from leaving us. What happens is, we leave, and abandon ourselves.

More than anything else, we all need and desire **LOVE**, where we are accepted for who we are unconditionally. Anger comes from the belief that we didn't get love. Fear acts as the spark which ignites our anger. It usually involves a loss of love or acceptance on some level. It could stem from not getting the appreciation you want at work, fear of someone close to you leaving if they find out who you really are, or your children not wanting to be a part of your life because you're different.

(continued)

Anger Deals with Judgment

Usually one of these statements of blame contributes to the fear:

1) *I'm not getting what I want.*

2) *I didn't get what I wanted.*

3) *I won't get what I want.*

Hence, anger never solves anything. It certainly doesn't heal. Based on fear, it moves us into thinking we are victims. We think something is missing in us; we are powerless and we are going to lose love so we rely on others for getting the love and acceptance we constantly seek. Unfortunately, this approach never works. We are always depending on others to make us feel validated, and they don't always do that. We forget a simple truth: we are not missing anything. Each one of us is whole and complete, capable of bringing into our lives all the love and acceptance possible!

It's an Inside Job

Feeling really loved and accepted for who we are is an inside job! If we're not willing to love and accept ourselves unconditionally, how can we expect others to do the same? Remember, everyone is a mirror for us, reflecting our own thoughts and feelings about ourselves. When we accept ourselves more, we find more acceptance from those around us. We might also find those who judge and reject us leaving our lives as new, more accepting people come in to support us. We have to be willing to love ourselves no matter what!

1) *Regardless of the messages we heard from our caregivers,*

2) *Regardless of what our spouse or significant other thinks about us, and*

3) *Regardless of how we are treated ar work, or with friends.*

We feel anger when we are not being validated -- by someone else. Since we act as mirrors for each other, we can ask this question, "Have I been loving and accepting of myself lately?" If, on some deep (perhaps unconscious) level, we don't accept ourselves, we will draw people to us who affirm and reinforce those negative beliefs. **Our thoughts really do create our reality!**

Coming to terms with these negative ideas doesn't happen overnight. Our beliefs and perceptions about ourselves develop over the years. Many of us have forgotten that we all started out the same: fragile, dependent infants. We begin as gentle, loving, wise, spontaneous, creative, and intuitive beings. Research studies confirm that children are fully conscious human beings from eight months *in utero* on. We also know we have the ability to remember our birth experience. We were born expecting to be loved and accepted unconditionally! As we grew older, many of us heard negative and/or unsupportive statements from our parents or caregivers. "No!" "Stop that!" "Bad boy!" Because we wanted to be loved and accepted by these tall giants, we suppressed our true, playful, and spontaneous nature. We conform to what we think people want us to be. By the time we reach adulthood, many of us have forgotten our true nature.

What Happens When We Hold Onto Our Anger?

Whenever we feel angry, we fail to see the underlying truth of a given situation, thereby perpetuating a lie (usually about ourselves). People who push our buttons, making us feel angry, act as our most important teachers. They usually appear to teach us more about loving and forgiving ourselves. That's why it never helps to judge our feelings. Our anger tells us we're focusing on the wrong thing or person. It's not about "that person." It's about our responsibility to ourselves. Holding onto our anger keeps us from seeing the truth -- the fear of being left alone, to shrivel up and die. Sorry folks! This isn't the truth. Dancing the dance of anger keeps us from seeing that we are already okay, just the way we are.

Anger acts like a magnet. If we feed it with blame and fear, it grows larger and larger. Nothing gets resolved when the focus is on blame. In the sequel to the movie, *Star Wars*, Luke Skywalker is reminded by Ben not to feed his anger or it would make the dark forces stronger. It perpetuates the lie about our being separated from one another. In truth, we are all one, small pieces connected to a greater whole. If more of us remembered this simple concept, we'd have fewer wars and less damage to our planet.

People attached to having their fear and anger validated walk around with emotional scars. They feed these emotions like an addict feeds his addiction, getting that "fix." "My wife doesn't understand." "My parents never loved me." "I have a right to my feelings. Look at the way I've been treated!" We are addicted to blaming others for our misery. Guess what? This approach only serves to keep us mired in righteous blame, keeping us stuck! In order to be free, we must be willing to give up these scars and see our part in what's happening to us.

In her book, *A Return to Love*, Marianne Williamson tells us whenever we judge one another, shaking fingers at him or her, we do not help that person to change. Perceiving someone to be guilty of something only keeps them stuck. Women who judge a crossdresser as being "less than a man" keep that image strong. They neglect to see the fuller picture, ignoring the fact that these men are at least in touch with their feminine energies. Hence, men who crossdress usually exhibit more sensitivity and understanding, communicate more than the "macho man" who's too afraid to get in touch with his vulnerability. At the same time, men who judge their partners for not being more accepting of their dressing also

(continued on pg. 15)

Time For Your Medicine

by Sheila Kirk, MD

SMOKING, A PLEASURE AND A POISON

(Dr. Sheila Kirk is Board Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and is a member of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association. She is the author of Hormones, an educational resources publication published by IFGE. She is the Director of IFGE's Medical & Research Department and is currently researching crossdressing among teens. If you have any questions or suggested topics for discussion, write her c/o IFGE, POB 367, Wayland MA 01778.)

The topic of the column this month is more general than usual, but I picked it because this is such a devastating medical problem, and can be even more so for those of you who are on some form of hormone therapy. The use of tobacco is so common that it is almost superfluous to describe the patterns of use or the overt behavior of the users. Indeed, smoking is so widespread that it is rarely viewed as a form of drug abuse or as an addiction, even though it fits all the accepted criteria for drug dependence.

Tobacco use is unique in that all its potential adverse effects are associated with chronic rather than experimental or occasional use. Public awareness of the serious health consequences of smoking have only just begun to be apparent, and while there is a definite decrease in smoking in the older population, the incidence and prevalence in cigarette smoking is now increasing remarkably among the younger population. The evidence is considerable that it is the nicotine contained within cigarettes that is the reinforcing constituent that gives tobacco its universal popularity. Yet, there are about 500 compounds that have been isolated from the particulate and gaseous phases of tobacco smoke.

The percentage of nicotine in tobacco varies considerably. It may range from 0.5 to 8%. The smoke of the average cigarette may yield 6 to 8 mg. of nicotine, while that of a cigar may contain from 15 to as much as 40 mg. of nicotine. Approximately 90% of the nicotine in inhaled smoke is absorbed, compared to only about 25 to 50% of that in smoke that is drawn into the mouth and then quickly expelled.

In addition to nicotine, tobacco contains a wide number of different chemicals. Nitrogenous bases, isoprenoid compounds, volatile acids, tar and phenolic substances, the latter of which are thought to be very much a part of the concern for tobacco as the causative agent for respiratory tract cancers. All of these chemicals undoubtedly contribute to the irritation of the mucous membranes produced by tobacco and tobacco smoke. Substances such as polonium 210 and nickel have been identified in tobacco smoke and are also part of the causative factors in lung cancer. Appreciable amounts of carbon monoxide may be present in tobacco smoke. Five to ten percent of the circulating hemoglobin in our red blood cells may be converted to carboxyhemoglobin as a result of fairly continuous smoking of cigarettes. Hence, the individual who smokes is not really taking in appropriate amounts of oxygen.

It seems clear that smokers continue to smoke for very different reasons. Some enjoy smoking purely for the sake of the taste and the exhilaration that comes from the main constituents of tobacco. Some smoke for social reinforcement. Some smoke to alleviate primary distress such as anger, fear, or shame. And, some simply smoke to avoid the distress experienced when deprived of tobacco. It seems clear that pharmacologic factors interact with environmental stimuli and social reinforcers, so that after thousands of repetitions, a puff on a cigarette has considerably more reinforcing effect than it did originally.

(continued)

Let's single out one of the more important substances in tobacco, nicotine. Let's discuss some of the problems associated with its use and some of the physiologic changes that can be expected from prolonged use of it. Nicotine is a naturally occurring alkaloid. It is colorless and strongly alkaline in reaction. On exposure to air, it turns brown and acquires the odor of the tobacco leaf. By and large, it has no therapeutic application. The complex and often unpredictable changes that occur in the body after the administration of nicotine are due not only to its actions on a variety of special structures in the nervous system called ganglia, but also to the fact that the alkaloid has both stimulant and depressant phases of action. The ultimate response of any one structure or system represents the summation of several different and opposing effects of the nicotinic drug. For example, this drug can increase the heart rate, and then slow it. In addition, the effects of the drug on the chemo-receptors of certain arteries in the body, principally the carotid and the aortic, and on the medullary centers of the brain, influence heart rate as do also the cardiovascular compensatory reflexes resulting from changes in blood pressure caused by nicotine. Finally, nicotine causes a discharge of epinephrine from the adrenal gland, and this hormone accelerates cardiac rate and raises blood pressure.

Nicotine's reaction also can be noted in the central nervous system in that it markedly stimulates that system, producing tremors in man, and, in larger doses, tremors are followed by convulsions. There can also be a stimulus to breathing. Respiration is increased notably with higher doses of the drug. Compensatorily, there is a depression in the central nervous system that takes place after this excitation. Death could result from nicotine poisoning from failure of respiration due both to central paralysis and peripheral blockade of the muscles of respiration.

Nicotine has an effect upon the gastrointestinal system in that it can induce vomiting by its influence upon the central and the peripheral nervous systems. In large doses it causes diarrhea. Nicotine also has what is known as an anti-diuretic activity such that it causes retention of body fluid. Its effect on the vascular system, however, is most notable. Its activity is mediated by the autonomic nervous system such that it can cause vasoconstriction of the peripheral blood vessels. This, along with increased heart rate will eventually cause an elevation of blood pressure. If one were taking estrogen and progesterone and smoking as well, very cautious attention should be paid regularly to the condition of the vascular system.

Generally speaking, the greatest part of nicotine is detoxified in the liver, products of that breakdown are then presented to the kidney where they are excreted in the urine. However, nicotine can be demonstrated in all body fluids, and it is found in the milk of lactating women who smoke. A smoking mother, while breast-feeding her baby, gives the child a fair amount of nicotine with each feeding.

What I have said thus far has to do with nicotine when it is used in moderately large amounts. This picture is seen with acute poisoning from nicotine. Actually it is felt that one needs as much as 60 milligrams of nicotine in order to produce severe cardiovascular stimulus and respiratory depression to the point of death. We have already mentioned that one doesn't take in that much when smoking a single cigarette. The concerns with tobacco use really have to do with its prolonged use and chronic effect upon the various systems of the body. While intolerance to many of the pharmacodynamic effects of nicotine develops when the compound is taken repeatedly, the chronic use of tobacco by a large part of the population raises the problem of the chronic toxicity of nicotine and of unquestionably greater importance, the other constituents of tobacco smoke.

There is a decided relationship between the increased use of cigarettes and a variety of medical problems that occur in individuals. A great deal of study, research, and medical reporting constantly drive home the fact that this is not a good habit, albeit a pleasurable one. Estimates vary from year to year, but in general, between 350,000 and 400,000 persons die annually in the United States because of tobacco use. It has been calculated that one's life is shortened by 14 minutes for each cigarette smoked. Smoking is thus the greatest public health hazard in the United States, and the nation's most preventable cause of death. Studies have shown that approximately 11 cigarette smokers die from cancer of the lung for each non-smoker who dies from the same cause. At one time it was felt that this was predominantly a cancer of the male population. Statistics now show that with increased smoking among women, the incidence of lung cancer has increased significantly in the female population. It can be said without any question, that the heavy use of tobacco in this century is apparently responsible for the fact that carcinoma of the lung is of the incidence that it is, in both the male and the female. Similar studies have shown a relation between the use of cigarettes and cancer of the oral cavity, the larynx, and the esophagus.

A smoker's respiratory syndrome has been described, characterized, by difficulty in breathing, by wheezing, pharyngeal constriction, chest pain, frequent upper respiratory infections, oftentimes misdiagnosed as asthma. The conditions seem to disappear, or at least are greatly alleviated, when smoking is eliminated. The incidence of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, for instance, emphysema, is also greater for chronic smokers than for non-smokers. Objective and subjective

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Legal Briefs

by Naomi Owen, JD

(Naomi Owen is a prominent midwest attorney, a member of the IFGE Board of Directors, and Chairperson of its Legal and By-Laws Committee. Although she has extensive experience in dealing with gender issues, she is not in private practice and is not available to represent persons in private matters. You may write to her directly: Naomi Owen, Attorney at Law, PO Box 342, Chicago IL 60690. As always, the views expressed in this column are the author's, and are not necessarily those of IFGE.)

A VERY SPECIAL WEEK!

I have known Virginia Prince for more than twelve years. She is a great lady, much admired and respected by the gender community. It is a great honor for me to follow in her footsteps and receive an award named in tribute to her and her many accomplishments.

The late, great artist Andy Warhol once commented that every person should have 15 minutes of fame thrust upon them at least once in a lifetime. Thus, I consider myself lucky. At the Coming Together Convention in Houston, Naomi truly enjoyed not 15 minutes, but a whole week of fun and glory.

I am personally flattered to have been selected to receive the Virginia Prince Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition, I am flattered that by choosing me, you have also chosen to recognize the achievements of Chi Chapter, TRI-ESS in Chicago. I sincerely mean this when I tell you that I could not, and would not have received this award if I hadn't had the support and backing of my Chi Chapter sisters and brothers through all these years. Thank you Chi Chapter for making it happen!

And, to all my sisters and brothers around the country: Thank you so much for your telephone calls, and your cards and letters of congratulation. Your kind words and beautiful thoughts are most appreciated. Yes, this was, for me, a very special award, and a very special week!

THE MAIL BAG

Because I have already devoted a substantial part of this column to a personal message, I have decided to devote the rest of the column to responding to some of the correspondence I have received over the past year.

Ever since I began writing this column, I have wondered whether people really read it. I should have known better. The *Tapestry* is, without doubt, the première publication of its kind, and it keeps getting better with each issue. Your response to my column has been quite encouraging. I try to answer each letter I receive, but sometimes the task is overwhelming as I try to balance this task with my "other life." So, forgive me if you didn't get a personal reply. I do try to answer the urgent ones as soon as possible. (Sometimes it is easier and quicker for me to just pick up the phone and make a personal call in response to your inquiry. If you would like me to do that, please include your telephone number and any calling instructions in your letter.)

During the past year, several persons have written to request a legal opinion on a personal legal matter. For example, one person asked for an opinion regarding the custody of children in a divorce where crossdressing was one of the issues raised regarding the father's fitness to have custody. Another wrote to ask about the division of assets in a divorce when one of the partners is contemplating sexual reassignment. In situations of this kind I have attempted to provide informal assistance and direction. However, I believe that it would NOT be in my

best interest, nor in the best interest of IFGE and *Tapestry* to provide formal legal advice or a legal opinion to individuals on personal matters. The following are my reasons:

1) I do not consider myself an expert in the area of legal custody of children, or division of assets in marital litigation. I do not practice in this area of the law. More importantly, different states and their courts have different laws, regulations, guidelines, and legal precedents regarding divorce, child custody, and partner property rights, and I don't pretend to know them all. These issues are best handled by someone experienced in handling these matters in the jurisdiction where the issue is before the court. (If you need more information on when you need a lawyer, or how to select a lawyer, see IFGE's superb booklet, *HOW TO BE A GOOD LEGAL CONSUMER*, published in 1991 and available through IFGE's publications service.)

2) Personal legal matters involve personal conflicts and require a complete knowledge of all the facts and issues in the situation. A letter and a phone conversation is, at best, a superficial discussion. Personal conflicts require the totally undivided attention of legal counsel who is completely immersed in all the details of the controversy.

3) I do not wish to subject IFGE or *Tapestry* to any legal liability for providing formal legal advice or a legal opinion. Perhaps in the future IFGE or its various special funds will be able to provide funding for the publication of scholarly legal research by independent members of the academic community which can then be used as expert authority. You can add this to my List.

Recently, I received a letter from an incarcerated person in the midst of sexual reassignment requesting assistance in dealing with prison authorities. My suggestion here was that the person contact Sr. Mary Elizabeth, SSE; J2CP Information Services; P O Box 184; San Juan Capistrano CA 92693-0184. In 1990, Sister Mary wrote, *Legal Aspects of Transsexualism* (also available directly from IFGE for $10 and $1 postage and handling). This extraordinary, in-depth study is must reading for those in transition, thinking about transition, or who have an interest in the legal aspects of transition.

Several persons have written to tell me of their experiences while driving crossdressed (see Issue #59) or using a public washroom while crossdressed (see Issue #61). My thanks to MBD of CT who suggested another alternative when you need to use a washroom in public: ask a shopkeeper for special permission to use the store's private employee rest room, if they have one!

THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW DEPARTMENT

Dear Naomi:,

Recently I attended my first big weekend affair. It was my first time out in public, and so I was quite apprehensive and nervous. Generally speaking, I had a marvelous time. However, I was, and still am, deeply distressed by the behavior and appearance of some of the participants. Isn't there something we can do to legally prevent some of these "undesirables" from attending our events?

WOW! You've hit on a real sensitive issue, one that has bothered me and many others for a long time. I have discussed this problem with a number of leaders in our community, including some who are responsible for planning and operating major events. I am not surprised that this is a growing concern.

To begin with, this is not really a "legal" issue. Event sponsors can refuse to register "undesirables" and can eject persons who act out in unacceptable ways. Many events have "dress" and "conduct" codes, and attempt to enforce them. Furthermore, hotels and other public facilities can, within certain limitations and for good reason, eject or refuse to serve persons whose conduct or appearance is unacceptable. Defining "unacceptable" is not easy, however.

We preach tolerance and understanding for all transgendered people. And, we seek acceptance by society. This is, at best, a difficult and controversial task. The problem raised in this letter is a social and public relations problem for the gender community and for society in general. Perhaps this discussion belongs elsewhere in Tapestry. Since it interests me, however, I am going to, "Get a few things off my chest!"

Everyone has a personal style, a collection of ways of presenting him- or herself: visually, verbally, and behaviorally. This personal style usually evolves over a period of time. If this personal style is "appropriate" for the time and place in which it occurs, it is usually acceptable. If not, it breeds scorn, ridicule, and, quite possibly, rejection. And, it causes serious problems for our community.

A style can be Classic, traditional, regular, or simple. Some, however, find the Classic to be *boring*. Other styles include: Sophisticated, which conveys eliteness, wisdom, and experience; Glamorous which adds flair and allure to your persona; Playful which makes you seem livelier and fun-loving; and Bizarre which can be intriguing, but also can attract attention. There is room for creativity within a style. It can, if handled properly, add to a person's "attractiveness" and "personality." An element of dash and sophistication is valuable. It also may be valuable to

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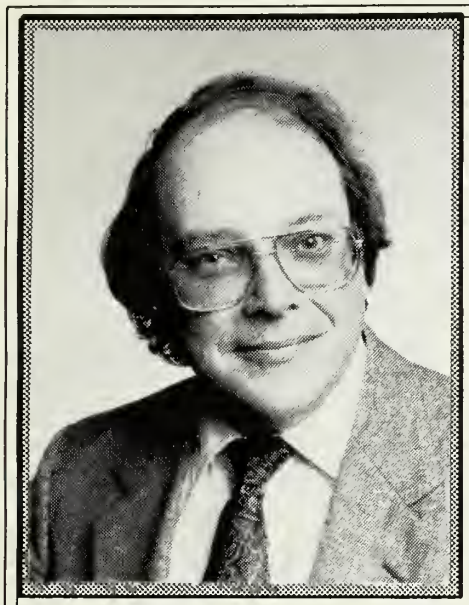
Roger's Notebook



by Roger Peo, PhD

(Roger Peo is a Board Certified sexologist and president of Androgyny Unlimited. He is also a member of the Tri-Ess professional staff. If you have any questions or suggested topics for discussion, you may write him P O Box 4887, Poughkeepse NY 12602.)

(#61) Privacy and Understanding

In many of my 60 previous columns I have spoken on behalf of people who seem to have little voice in the community. Sometimes these viewpoints have made some readers uncomfortable because they have a different perspective on the subject. In the past six months two readers have strongly disagreed with what I have written. This column is a reply to them, in the spirit of continuing dialog rather than choosing "sides."

The first writer was Phaedra Kelly in a column in Cross-Talk, July 1991. She took exception to my description and comments about one man's (fictional) compulsion on gaining entry to a women-only tea room (Notebook #54). My position was that people have the right to reserve places in which not everyone is welcome. I wrote that such exclusion is often necessary for personal growth. Only when such limitations deny others access to socially or economically essential elements is it properly challenged.

Ms. Kelly, I believe, missed my point. She quotes historical events in which women invaded male bastions to gain various rights including voting. I believe that these incidents were appropriate, based on the fact that women were denied social and economic power. She then goes on to point out that female sexuality can be as intense as male sexuality. Somehow this justifies Ms. Kelly's conclusion that it is permissible for either gender to invade the other gender's private spaces so long as the invader is up front about the 'sexual and adrenaline high' that results.

Ms. Kelly describes me as old fashioned because my professional experience has led me to the conclusion that women want or need this security more than men. Regardless, let me expand the discussion by talking about the gender community instead of women's social groups. From my observations, many of the organizations in the gender community go to great lengths to assure privacy and security for their meetings. Elaborate screening of potential members and limited knowledge of meeting places is common.

I suspect that people in the average organization would be infuriated if they were 'invaded' by persons who were either simply curious or got 'a sexual high' from breaking into their meeting. There would be more than anger if such an intrusion were directed toward physical attacks on the members. In sum, we all need private and secure places. Invasion of these places 'on a lark' is inexcusable.

The other writer who took exception to my writing was Linda Phillips, in *Cross-Talk*, September 1991. In #57 I had written about my experience on a television show that primarily presented only one side -- the nearly unconditional acceptance of cross-dressing by the wife. I wrote about the potential effect on women who could not be as accepting as Ms. Phillips's wife is of her husband's cross-dressing.

I have probably talked to as many wives as has Ms. Phillips, but under totally different circumstances. The women she sees have most likely already made some accommodation to their partner's cross-dressing. The women I see are still struggling with the issues and with their relationship.

The one valid point that Ms. Phillips makes is that many of the husbands (of my clients) are not honest with their wives and also have a lot of guilt and shame over their cross-dressing. This guilt and shame does strongly influence how they relate to their wives. It is the women in these relationships that I work with. From these experiences I have come to believe that there are a significant number of women who do not wholeheartedly accept their husband's cross-dressing and perhaps never will.

The thing that outraged me about Ms. Phillips's rejoinder was that she accused me (and other professionals) of labelling people as sick so that we can make money from curing them. I am also outraged by Ms. Phillips's implication that I am trying to preserve the social status quo so that I can "make more money." If she bothered to become aware of my actions within the gender community, the professional community and in society at large, she would know that I have worked to change perceptions about gender issues. To the extent I and others in the community are successful in achieving a more positive social attitude toward gender, to that extent will there be fewer clients for me to work with.

If she ever asked other professionals, she would discover that serving the gender community is far from a money making proposition. Most professionals that I know could not earn a living if they had only clients with gender concerns. In my particular case, less than 5% of my income comes from working with such clients. I find it sad that so many people in the gender community believe professionals are self-serving individuals whose sole purpose is to make money from persons who struggle with gender issues. Yes, there are uninformed professionals who do more harm than good, but that is also true for any other profession. Not everyone is completely altruistic nor are any omniscient. The majority of professionals who serve your community are there because they care, not because they want to take advantage of you.

(#62) Compared To What?

Standards are everywhere. In today's world, everything is compared to everything else. Just look at advertising. We want things to be better than something else. On a personal basis, we are always compared to other people. In school there are grades and class rankings—all destined to measure us against other people's accomplishments. In the workplace there are various rating systems that are supposed to determine who is better and/or how much so-and-so should be paid, or what privileges they are entitled to.

Perhaps in common work or school situations, or for some social circumstances there are ways to establish useful standards and measure people against them. For personal feelings, it does not seem either possible or useful to have such guidelines. Further, when the term "normal" is used it carries with it an insinuation that being outside this measure is "bad" or "wrong" or "sick."

In the transgender culture people suspect that there are standards of behavior and feeling. A client will often ask how their feelings or behaviors compare to others. One concern is how often they feel like cross-dressing. They want to know what is "normal."

For example, suppose I told a client, "The normal frequency of crossdressing is once a month." Further, suppose that this client cross-dresses on a daily basis. Now how do you think this client would feel? My guess is that he would feel even more concerned about his cross-dressing and perhaps even try to limit it to the "normal" frequency of once per month. Reverse the numbers -- "normal" is every day and the client only wants to cross-dress once a month. Is he now supposed to cross-dress more frequently?

It appears that how often someone wants to cross-dress is governed by many factors—erotic/sensual feelings, stress and opportunity are a few of them. Further, such factors are inter-related. For example, stress can reduce your energy and desire to cross-dress. Stress can also increase the desire to cross-dress as a means of temporarily escaping from the stressful condition. What is usual for one person may not work for someone else. Further, what is normal for one person in one set of circumstances may change when the situation changes.

However often you cross-dress, the prime concern is its effect on your lifestyle and feelings. If you feel it is OK, then it IS OK. If there are problems—if it DOESN'T feel OK—then it is time to figure out what is happening and perhaps try changing something. Cross-dressing, alone, is neither bad nor good. Its effects on your feelings and the feelings of those around you are the gauge as to what is right for you. Comparing yourself to others can make you uncomfortable without helping you understand yourself.

(#63) This Must Be Salem

There are some members of the gender community who are simultaneously on a witch hunt and looking for a magic wand. I am referring to the current push to persuade the American Psychiatric Association to remove all mention of gender concerns from their *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-III-R)*. Their rationale is that if these categories are removed from clinical definitions everything will suddenly be all right. Then, persons who wish to express non-traditional gender roles will be accepted by society because they will no longer be labelled "sick." So the "bad guys" are the clinicians who have formalized definitions about

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Electrology

by Linda DeFruscio, RE, REI

(Linda DeFruscio is a registered Electrologist and a Registered Electrology Instructor currently teaching at the Eleanor Roberts School of Electrology in Boston, MA. She is the owner of A & A Electrolysis Associates, located in Newtonville, MA.)

Recently I got a telephone call from a Chief of Dermatology referring a patient of his, let's call her Katie, to me for treatment. Katie is a physician in the Boston area. She has a case of idiopathic hirsutism due to increased ovarian androgen production. Along with the hair growth, she had acne vulgaris. The acne is often the result of the side effects of hair removal: folliculitis and ingrown hairs. In a case like Katie's, the glandular problem causing the hypertrichosis (abnormal amount of hair) must be treated first. Once she has seen an endocrinologist or an internist, then we can treat the hirsutism.

Katie's case consisted of dark and white terminal (coarse) hairs on the chin, upper lip, cheeks, anterior neck, and sternal (breast) region. She had decided to treat the hair growth with a readily available one-touch electrolysis kit. Unfortunately, the kit comes with only one size probe (needle). The probe size is large. Katie had hairs of all sizes, small, medium, and large. As she tried to remove the unwanted hair, she couldn't see where the opening was in the skin. So, she kept poking and pushing around, guessing that she was in the right place to the right depth. Who knows if she was even near the orifice (hair follicle opening)? Then she would turn on the current until the skin was so hot that she couldn't stand the pain. After removing the probe, she pulled the hair out with forceps. She was not treating the hair properly, and she was causing severe skin damage.

Katie had done three things incorrectly: she had used an incorrectly sized probe for many of the hairs; she had inserted the probe incorrectly, too shallow or too deep, or not at all; and she did not program the timing of the current to be right for each individual hair. What really happened was that she had plucked every hair, causing distorted follicles and ingrown hairs, as well as some keloiding (scarring). To say the least, her skin was sore. The skin was raw around each orifice from the trauma. The current was too high and the probe was not deep enough in the follicle. This caused the skin to get singed and tender.

Katie also had never worn sun screen. The first few days after treatment are most critical for healing. The sun darkened and spotted the treated area, and pollution caused sever hyperpigmentation (dark spots) and acne. To get rid of this problem, I gave Katie strict instructions: get rid of the magic hair-removing device, and no more plucking, waxing, or picking the skin. She could trim long hairs with scissors, but only if she left them long enough for the electrolysis treatments.

Hormonal and post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation can be treated effectively through innovative medication. These include glycolic or alpha hydroxyl acids (AHA), hydroquinone in low concentrations, and kojic acid (a new skin lightening agent from Japan). This latter is sold under the brand name Kolite. It is a welcome development for those allergic to hydroquinone. Hydroquinone is currently being looked at by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for long-term safety. The concern is that perhaps improper dosage of the higher potency, prescription-only version of hydro-

quinone, called Monobenzylether, may cause skin disorders. This preparation has been marketed particularly to African-Americans. It carries inadequate label warnings regarding sun exposure, use of daily sunscreen, and risk of severe inflammation from allergic reactions, including hyperpigmentation. Over the counter dosages of hydroquinone 2% has ben marketed to African-Americans for over fifty years. Manufacturers argue that the criticism is grossly overstated.

The practitioner and the patient should discuss past hydroquinone uses and stress serious sun care and clinic treatment. This should include discussion of glycolic acid exfoliation and the two-step Dermloyse enzyme treatment to boost results. Diligent use of a sunscreen is a must. Passive sun exposure, such as riding in a car, poses a great risk. Many people mistakenly think that they do not need to use a sunscreen for brief, intermittent exposure.

A recommended home care program for patients with hyperpigmentation consists of the following:

-wash with a liquid cleanser or an acne cleanser
-rinse well
-apply optional skin toner

Apply to clean skin in the morning:

-Murad AHA Skin Lightening Gel with hydroquinone
-wait 10 minutes to dry
-it is imperative to wear sunscreen or a protective hat
-apply HDS SPF 30, oil and paba free, for casual walking
-apply HDS SPF 30, waterproof, for exercising, beach or going on a cruise
-apply 30 minutes before sun exposure for total protection
-reapply every 2-3 hours, or as needed, especially if going in the water or in strongest sun, 11:00am-2:00pm.

Apply to skin in the afternoon/evening:

-Murad AHA Skin Lightening Gel with hydroquinone
-wait 10 minutes to dry
-apply a thick application of Karin Herzog's Vitamin A Kombi Forte for 15 minutes
-wipe off.

An appropriate clinical procedure for patients with hyperpigmentation would consist of the following:

-bi-weekly glycolic acid (AHA) procedures, but this is not to be combined with electrolysis treatments on the same day
-clinic use of glycolic acid should be performed at least 2 days before or after electrolysis treatment to boost your home program.

HDS SPF 30 contains titanium dioxide in a moisturizing base for greater physical protection from the sun and from pollution. You do not need an additional moisturizer with this sunscreen. Also, it is non-cosmetogenic to the skin. When applying makeup over the sunscreen, be sure to wait 15 minutes after applying the sunscreen to give ample time for drying. If you don't, one will wipe off the other.

Katie has improved greatly since she started electrolysis and skin care, and treatment for her hyperpigmentation several months ago. Her acne has changed from Grades III and IV to Grade II. She is well on her way to perfectly clear skin.

When straight guests come to visit, the only thing a single TV has to worry about is wiping the lipstick stains off the milk cartons in the refrigerator.

(with apologies to Elaine Boozler)

Editorial

by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

THE LESSON OF THE LADYSLIPPER

(Merissa Sherrill Lynn is the founder and Executive Director of International Foundation for Gender Education and the TV/TS Tapestry Journal. Merissa also serves on the Executive Committee of the IFGE Board of Directors, and is the Director of the annual Coming Together - Working Together Convention. Anyone wishing to contact Merissa may do so by writing or calling: Merissa S. Lynn, P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 617-894-8340)

At the end of *Sergeant York*, one of the great movies of all time, Alvin York took the hand of his bride, looked at his new house sitting on the best farmland in the valley, and said, "De' Lord shor do work in m'sterious ways." For Alvin, God worked his magic through the horror of war. For me, God worked its magic through the delicate beauty of a ladyslipper.

My early childhood was a very confusing time for me. I was four, perhaps three when I first became aware my soul did not match my body. I had something between my legs that didn't belong there. Peggy Sue didn't have a thing between her legs. Why couldn't I be like Peggy Sue? Everybody kept telling me God loved me. If that was so, why did he give me the wrong body? It just plain old didn't make any sense. I wasn't a boy. Surely God knew that. At first I was naive enough to think God would correct this mistake, but after years of praying until my heart nearly broke, I learned better.

Was there a reason for me being the way I was? I didn't know. All I knew was people around me had little tolerance for my attempts to express myself. For instance, my mother was not pleased when I cut up her pillow cases to make dresses. My boy-type friends didn't seem to appreciate being zapped by my super sex-change ray gun. I seemed to be the only boy who wanted to grow up to be Calamity Jane. I finally learned it was better, or at least less painful, to let people think I was really a boy, even though I wasn't. That was easy to do, for I was one heck of a tomboy. All I needed to do was keep my mouth shut, occasionally beat up a neighbor's kid to prove I was a real boy, avoid cutting up any more pillow cases, and make sure no one caught me wearing my sister's clothes.

Well, on my 13th birthday I was caught wearing my sister's clothes. I don't remember the pain of the beating, but I will never forget the sound a three-foot section of rubber hose makes when it swings through the air ... like the sound of a child trying to learn how to whistle. If God made me the way I was, then why I was being beaten for it?

After that, "why" became a dominating question. I was a female cursed with a male body. Why? I would never be able to bear or nurse children, but I had an intense desire to do so. Why? I had a loving soul with a profound desire to share that love, but anger, hatred and an overwhelming fear of rejection dominated my life. Why? I wanted to help people, but all I did was reject everyone and everything, even myself. Why? I wanted to live, but I looked for ways to die. Why?

From the time of the beating until I was 32, I worked to hide my female reality. I tried to bury my soul, which if I had succeeded meant committing spiritual suicide. I did not succeed. However, I did succeed in succumbing to a hatred for my male body, and to my own self-hatred for being too much a coward to do anything about it. From the time I was 13 until I was 32, I was an unbelievable spiritual mess, and could not possibly have been more unhappy. Death, or more appropriately, oblivion and the escape from pain and hatred dominated my existence.

Although actually committing suicide was not in my game plan, tempting death by constantly placing myself in dangerous situations was. My favorite way of tempting death was to go on what I later came to know as vision quests. I would wander into New

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Hampshire's mountain wilderness, with no food or shelter, and walk until I could walk no more. Then I would sit and meditate, trying to feel myself into the life that surrounded me. My purpose was to learn what I needed to know about God, about Nature, and about myself. If I died instead, at least I would have died in a place that did not judge me on the basis of my apparent gender, peaceful oblivion would have given me an escape from my unhappiness, and the earth would have my body to provide food for new life. Most importantly, I would have died in an acceptable way, which meant the world would never have had a reason to reject my memory. I feared rejection more than I feared death.

Many times I climbed to remote dangerous places and prayed, "Please God, teach me what I need to learn."

I went on many such quests, and many times I should have died. I remember one night hiking, in the dead of winter, to the summit of Mount Lafayette so I could freeze to death under the brilliant blue light of the full icicle moon. I remember one cold and wet melancholy day hiking the Presidential Range until I collapsed from exhaustion just so when the day came to an end, so would my life. Time and again I should have died, but I didn't. Why? It was as though God were keeping me alive for some unknown reason, and trying to teach me a lesson I did not understand.

It was on just such an excursion that I learned the lesson of the ladyslipper.

The excursion began in the late spring of 1974. I had just spent several days alone and without food in the New Hampshire Outing Club's cabin, a neat red-stained shelter nestled peacefully on the western side of Mount Lafayette. When I crawled from my sleeping bag the morning sun had not yet reached the horizon, but the snow covered peaks of the mountains were ablaze with a bright purple glow. I left the cabin and drove to the Pemigewasset Wilderness, a 200 square mile area in the heart of the White Mountains of New Hampshire. The Pemi was a magnificent valley blanketed with a gothic northern forest, laced with clean cold rivers, and surrounded by ancient mountains. There was no more perfect place for me to wander, to think, to listen, and to see. The southern entrance to the Pemi welcomed me like a womb, a place to enter and be reborn. As I entered, the birds and the swollen river sang to me. The hardwood trees, the beech, the maple, and the white birch were alive and proud with brand new cloaks of leaves, and, oh, they smelled sweet. No man-made perfume could hope to compete with such a beautiful smell. I walked for a few hours, then stopped to watch the ravens float on the updrafts over Mount Bond.

"Teach me, ravens," I said. "You are so beautiful flying there, as though you were part of the wind itself. Here I sit, shackled. Teach me how to free my spirit and to soar." As always, there was no answer, and I continued my journey.

Deeper into the wilderness I went, until the trees became so thick I could barely see the sky. As I looked at the leafy canopy above me, I said, "Teach me, trees. I see your trunks, rugged and strong, masculine, like my body. I see your roots, secure in the earth, bringing life and stability to your body. I envy you your security. I see your branches swaying in the wind, graceful and feminine, like the arms of a ballerina, like the wings of an angel. I see birds and squirrels making their homes in your loving and protective arms. Tell me trees, how is it you can be so masculine, and so feminine, and so in harmony with yourself? I long to know." There was no answer. I continued my journey.

Mile after mile I walked, seeking answers, or at least one answer that would give my soul peace. I walked by the river, thundering water pounding rock into sand, then changing maelstroms to quiet pools and eddies alive with fish and wildlife. I walked by the mountains, carved by glaciers and millions of years of erosion, yet still strong and tall, defiant against the elements. Finally, too tired to continue, I sat on an uninviting damp rock that jutted out of a moss-covered bank by the trail.

"This journey has been no different from all the rest," I thought to myself. "I am still a female in a male body, and I still don't know why." I looked to the clouds, and pleaded, " God, talk to me, teach me what I need to learn."

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WHITE (continued from pg. 4

perpetuate this behavior. We are all doing the very best we know how to do. We judge others not because they are wrong, but because of our own insecurities. It's much easier to point the finger at someone else than it is to take a good, honest look at ourselves. Judgment merely keeps the dance of anger alive.

When we're angry, we are choosing to ignore our responsibility for ending the dance. What someone else does is **not** the issue. How we choose to respond to it is.

How Can We Resolve Our Anger?

The only way we can stop anger is to stop feeding it. We do that by simply taking the focus off the other person(s). We must be willing to give up the statement of blame and ask ourselves, "What is it that frightens me?" When we are angry, we put ourselves in the victim rôle. It's time to give that up and look within for the thought creating our fear. In truth, we are never alone. When we learn to be there for ourselves, being honest about who we are and what we want, we nurture ourselves from within. This leads to greater self-esteem and increased empowerment. We find ourselves able to withstand other people's negative reactions to us because we know we're okay. This doesn't mean to act any old way we wish, becoming obnoxious and insensitive. It means we accept ourselves at the basic core of our being, knowing we have value, and there's nothing else to prove.

We must also be willing to see the truth. Anger knocks on the door of consciousness. It points out the need to look within. How did we create this situation? What can we learn from it so we don't have to create it again?

Finally, realize that when someone is angry at us, they are angry within. We do not have to accept the blame if we haven't done anything wrong! When we **allow** ourselves to become the focus of someone else's anger, we lose sight of ourselves and our feelings, automatically assuming it is our fault. Just as people choose to be angry at us, we can choose to react with anger or to respond with love, looking beneath the anger to the hurt and pain that exists.

Choice is the magic word. Do we continue to jump into the same old dance of anger, with its same old unresolved issues and hurts, or do we choose to try a new dance, moving to a different rhythm? This new beat is more attuned to our hearts and lives. Not all of us are born as Ginger Rogers was, able to learn new steps easily and gracefully. For many of us, trying a new step may feel awkward because of its unfamiliarity. Given a little practice, the dance steps become easier and more graceful. Which dance will you choose the next time anger knocks on the door?

KIRK (continued from pg. 6

evidence of pulmonary damage can even be observed in high school students with one to five years of smoking experience.

Considerable attention has been focused on the effects of tobacco smoking on the cardiovascular system. Cigarette smokers have a higher death rate from coronary heart disease than do abstainers. There also appears to be similar association between smoking and cerebrovascular disorders, or strokes. Excessive use of tobacco may cause premature cardiac heartbeat, attacks of rapid heartbeat and changes in the electrocardiogram that can be interpreted as underlying pathology. The observation that cigarette smoking may enhance blood clot formation suggests an additional contributory factor in coronary heart disease. There has been excellent evidence through the years that the use of tobacco is a part of a number of arterial disorders, adding to the steady progression of arthero- and arteriosclerotic disease as well as contributing to the peripheral constriction of many of the finer arteries in the development of specific vascular disorders. To give an example, one condition known as thromboangiitis obliterans is characterized by gradual constriction and blockade of smaller arteries, causing a loss of oxygenation in tissues beyond the obstruction. This is often in the extremities, and 90% of the individuals who are troubled by this disease are smokers.

A wide variety of other medical disorders and complications are thought to be related directly to smoking. There is evidence that smoking is associated with increased incidence of peptic ulcer disease. There is excellent evidence that cigarette smoking appears to be responsible for a variety of reproductive disorders including toxemia, fewer pregnancies, increased incidence of spontaneous abortions, and a higher incidence of neonatal mortality. The birth weight of infants born to mothers who smoke during pregnancy to any great extent is reduced significantly. The medical literature abounds with various studies and reports of the influence of tobacco smoke in the causation and continuance of anogenital cancer. Smoking has been indicted as part of the complications for failure of microsurgical techniques in various kinds of plastic and reconstructive surgery. There is a definite incidence of increased vessel disease associated in diabetics who smoke as well, very possibly because of its influence on cholesterol and the aggravation of arteriosclerosis in the arteries.

The medical literature in the last ten years is overwhelming in reference to the problems related to smoking in the world population. In reviewing the literature for only one month in the *Index Medicus*, I was confronted with 157 different articles on the effects of smoking as they

(continued)

KIRK (continued from page 15)

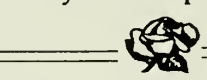
relate to health and disease in the human being. Mind you, that's in only one month! By conservative estimate, that means that at least 1500 papers by various medical authors and researchers were submitted to medical journals all over the world dealing with the effects of smoking in the past year. It makes one wonder about the claims of the tobacco companies when they argue with medicine in telling the American public there are no dangers in this very common habit. There is a rather old statistic that about 800 billion cigarettes are smoked in the United States alone each year. The number of cigarettes smoked all over the world in a year must be astronomical! Certainly this is a lucrative market for the tobacco industry. And the resistance offered to medical testimony is quite alarming.

I've only touched very briefly on some of the questions associated with cigarette smoking. We haven't looked at all at some of the concerns in reference to tolerance, physical dependence, and relapse. For some, there is tolerance to the effects of nicotine as they develop over the years. The question of nicotine physical dependence is somewhat controversial. While some heavy smokers state that they feel few effects, even when they stop smoking abruptly, others report a syndrome of irritability, aggressiveness, hostility, depression, and difficulty in concentrating that lasts for several days after discontinuing smoking. These symptoms are accompanied by significant changes in electroencephalogram tracings, and can be observed clinically in changes on autonomic nerve function. Many of these phenomena can be considered rebound effects from the actions of nicotine. Whether some smokers also have a protracted abstinence syndrome, or whether abstinence phenomena become conditioned to environmental stimuli is still not quite clear. However, it is clear that the rate of relapse among compulsive smokers who seek treatment is discouragingly high, with only 25 to 30% still not smoking two years after cessation, regardless of the specific treatment used.

Currently, as you are aware, there are various approaches towards trying to stop the habit of smoking. Techniques involving hypnosis, ear clips, aversion therapy, and the use of nicotine in various forms, i.e. chewing gum and topical patches. All of these have variable success, depending on the will of the individual and, oftentimes, the depth of their addiction. Even the most recent approach that has been offered to the public, the transdermal nicotine patch, is not without its failure and its concerns. There have been reports in the medical literature of the complications associated with patch use.

Another concern, becoming more and more important, is the question of illness and death associated with passive tobacco smoke exposure. Some information is found in the medical literature which now indicates that non-smoking partners and families living in close contact with a smoker are also at risk for pulmonary disease even as severe as lung cancer.

I have purposefully acted as the devil's advocate in this report to you. It's very simple and easy for me to say to you, "Stop smoking. It's a very dangerous habit!" Being a non-smoker, it seems very simple. But, it is a difficult habit to break, and the hardship of breaking with the smoking addiction can be overwhelming. However, one can't stress enough the dangers that are brought to our health by a habit that has such pleasure and yet such a poisonous effect.



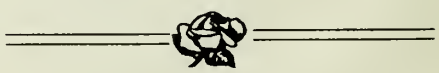
OWEN (continued from pg. 7)

be a little bit *playful*. It gives an individual an aura of fun and lightheartedness. Personal style is individual and unique. Style builds confidence. Effective style is a lifetime learning process.

We all judge others, and others judge us, by what we say and do, and how we appear. We can't avoid that. At some gut level, people pick up on us. For years, we have been stereotyped by society in generally unflattering terms. This is because the personal image, or style, of some particularly blatant public persons in our community has been outrageous, or at the least, non-conforming. Many of us think this stereotype is flawed and unfair. And so, we have attempted to project a more "acceptable" image, one which more accurately reflects our true nature. Projecting our true style, or even changing our style when necessary, is one way to change the way others see us.

There are some members of our community who don't understand this. They are either naïve or deliberately destructive. The truly naïve ones, when given an opportunity, soon learn to change. The deliberately destructive ones don't care how others view us, and flaunt their unacceptable behavior or appearance in order to attract attention. Unfortunately, they also make it difficult for those of us who do seek acceptance and understanding by society.

Many of our responsible leaders are losing patience with the deliberately destructive members of our community. The leaders and event sponsors do not relish the idea of losing access to the better hotels. And, they do not wish to see our hard-earned good will destroyed. It is my prediction that there will be more events with stronger "dress" and "conduct" codes. Other "gate-crashers" and "free loaders" will be asked to leave. Those event hosts have my full support!



PEO (continued from pg. 10

such behaviors and the "good girls" are those who oppose such definitions.

First, some information about *DSM-III-R* and the soon to be released *DSM-IV*. Simply finding definitions for any emotional or behavioral concern listed here does not automatically classify a person with such behaviors as "mentally ill." In fact, it is a gross misuse of the manual to make such an interpretation. To support this statement, I will quote at length from the Introduction to *DSM-III-R*. On page xxii it states: "...each of the mental disorders is conceptualized as a clinically significant behavioral or psychological syndrome or pattern that occurs in a person *and that is associated with present distress (a painful symptom) or disability (impairment in one or more important areas of functioning)... Neither deviant behavior, e.g. political, religious or sexual nor conflicts that are primarily between the individual and society are mental disorders unless the deviance or conflict is a symptom of a dysfunction in the person ...*" (Emphasis is mine.)

Thus, simply expressing transgender behaviors is not mental illness. Only if such expression or the need for expression causes the person significant distress would such behavior be classified as a problem that would benefit from clinical help.

Even if descriptions of transgender behaviors were removed from *DSM-IV*, the problems facing the gender community will not go away. In fact, I suggest that there will be no noticeable change in public perception and reaction. My reasoning is based on many years of observation. We live in a society that is highly conflicted about human sexuality. There is the sex-negative faction that takes the position that if one forbids all discussion of sexuality and confines sexual behaviors to marriage, then the world will be pure. Contrast that position with media and advertising that use sexuality to sell products and entice people to various movies and publications. Add to this the treatment of women as second class citizens sexually, politically and economically. If you think about it, you can come up with more divisions in our culture.

There are many ways that members of the transgender community can change society and, as a result, gain more acceptance of transgender feelings and behaviors. The strategy is to change society's attitudes about human sexuality through education. I mean the basic "stuff" that helps people to understand and value their own sexuality and the sexuality of others. Such education has to start with children in school, church and home situations. So, get involved there -- work to get comprehensive sex education in the various institutions in our society. Support people who are working in this field. At the adult level, get involved in women's issues. Speak out against sexual discrimination and harassment. Work to make men and women equal partners in our society. Using these tactics, one need not even admit to transgender feelings or behaviors.

As far as clinical definitions are concerned, the problem is in their use or misuse. Here the approach is to work with clinicians to help them understand gender issues. With this new insight they will be able to intervene appropriately with those individuals who fit the descriptions of *DSM-III-R*, that is, those whose lives are disrupted by gender conflicts. By speaking at professional conferences and talking to the future clinicians, this information will slowly be disseminated.

One last thing about changing or eliminating the definitions in *DSM-IV*. Without changing how society deals with human sexuality, the clinicians will be no different, except that they now have no way to understand the clients who are struggling with transgender behaviors that society still does not understand or accept.

The hard thing about these methods is that they take commitment in your everyday life. Further, it will take time to make a change. They are not as glamorous as trying to change some definitions in a book.

So, there are no bad guys or good girls and there is no magic wand. If you want society to treat you with respect, then you have to go about the very difficult job of helping them understand human sexuality. It is not easy, for the situation we are in today has taken a long time to develop. There are many people who will fight you every step of the way because they are frightened by sexuality. In the end, if you succeed, our society can be a better and healthier place.

LYNN (continued from pg. 14)

I sat there all night, hungry but not hungry, too tired to move. Perhaps I slept, I don't remember. The next day the sun was mid-sky, occasionally peeking through grayish puffy clouds. My energy and my will were gone. Why was I drawn to this place? I didn't know, and it didn't matter, for it was a good place. I was in a small grove of black mountain spruce, gnarled and weather-beaten, struggling for survival. To my back was a steep slope that disappeared into the trees. It shaded me from the morning sun. To my right, just out of sight, I could hear the thunder of Thoreau Falls, swollen with fresh melt from the high snow pack. The power of the falls shook the ground beneath me, and the moisture from its spray filled the air. To my front the river exploded against its banks as though it intended to scour the entire valley clean. Beyond the river the mountains rose 3,000 feet above the valley floor, blanking out the horizon. Beyond the mountains there was nothing. It was

as though I had found the womb of mother earth, the heart of the universe, the place where I could find my answers. Here I would stay until either I learned what I needed to know, or I found my peace.

This place was beautiful, spectacular in both its beauty and its isolation. Except for the trail I had hiked in on, there was no trace of another human being to judge me or to interrupt me. I was completely alone with nature and with God. It was what I wanted, yet something was missing. This place seemed to have no soul, no real life. Then something began to happen. The sun peeked out from behind a cloud. A ray of sunlight gleamed through the mist from the river creating a beautiful rainbow which bathed the river and the forest in soft pastels. It seemed to make things feminine and soft and comfortable for me, like a harbinger of something good to come. Then another ray of sunlight broke through the black spruce, and there, at my feet, balanced precariously between the trees and the river was a small pink ladyslipper.

I was tired, very tired, yet this sight startled me, as though it was meant to wake me up and get my attention. There it was, a delicate woodland orchid, a tiny touch of pink embraced by the hardness and the coldness and the thunder, bathed in the light of God's own spotlight. Suddenly, this beautiful but soulless place had a soul, it had life.

How could such a delicate vulnerable thing exist in such a place? The trees that were themselves broken and stripped of their branches by killing winds and winter snows, protected it from harm. The river whose power ground rock into sand, watered it with a gentle spray. The sun touched it with a finger of its life-giving light. The birds did not harm it. The animals did not harm it. I did not harm it. It was as though nothing in the universe was more important. Then it occurred to me that there really was nothing more important, for that little flower gave the entire valley life, and balance. It brought beauty and joy to a joyless place. It gave the trees something to cherish and to protect, and gave the river something to nourish. If that wonderful little orchid ceased to exist, the wilderness would feel the loss. I would feel the loss.

The ladyslipper touched me like nothing had ever touched me before, as though it reached through me and touched my soul. I opened my heart to it, and suddenly it was as though God were right there in front of me, speaking to me through that flower.

"Why have you not answered my prayers?" I asked.

"Because you were not praying to me," it answered. "You were praying to someone else's concept of me." That was true. Everyone else told me what God was without ever giving me the tools I needed to find God for myself. "Learn what I have to teach you," it said. "Do not listen to me with your mind. You will not hear. Do not pray to me with your mind. I will not answer. Listen to me with your soul, and you will understand, for I am spirit. I am life. Your soul is my soul, and my soul is in all things. This ladyslipper is a reflection of your soul. Feel it with your heart, set your spirit free, for your spirit is more real than your body." My hands began to shake. My body began to rock back and forth. Tears flowed and my throat knotted up. Squeals came from somewhere as though 32 years of pain and self hatred and spiritual denial had found a way to escape.

"But why did you make me this way, why did you make me suffer?"

"I made you special to give the world balance. I gave you a male body so you might know what it feels like to be treated as a male. I gave you a female spirit so you might know the longing for children, to bear new life, and to cherish and nurture. I made you barren so you might use your nurturing spirit to give life to others. I gave you pain so you could know the pain of others. I gave you fear so you could know the fear of others. I gave you the desire for death so you might know the power of that desire in others. I gave you all these gifts so you may help others in a good and healing way."

I learned that my female spirit is what gave me life, and the thing that gave my life purpose, and balance. It was the thing that made me what I was and who I was. It was the thing that connected me to all things, to the ravens, the trees, the mountains, the river, the ladyslipper, and God.

"You made the tree masculine and feminine", I continued. "You made me masculine and feminine. The tree is in harmony, and I am not. Why?"

"The words masculine and feminine are not my words. They are your words. I gave the tree the qualities it needed to live and you called those qualities masculine and feminine. I created the ladyslipper to give the forest life and balance, and you called the ladyslipper feminine. I gave you your soul to give you life and balance so you could be a healer, and you called it feminine. I did not.

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The tree is in harmony because it knows only that it is, and I created it. You will be in harmony when you learn that you are, and I created you."

The ladyslipper had taught me to see with the eyes of my heart, and to ask and to listen with the voice and the ears of my soul. It had taught me the nature of God, and that balance was the natural state of the universe. It had taught me not to fear but to cherish my female spirit, and that masculinity and femininity were not God's words. It taught me to understand and appreciate the truly extraordinary gifts God had given me, and that I could use these gifts in a good and healing way. It taught me what I needed to know, and showed me the path I needed to follow.

God truly does work in mysterious ways.

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POLITICAL ACTION

To the Editor:

The recent issue regarding political action on behalf of our community was very welcome, and long overdue. We do need political advocacy,and political participation by and for the gender community.

In the debate between JoAnn Roberts and Merissa Sherrill Lynn, I have to side with JoAnn. Her analysis and her suggestions for action point us in the right direction. We need to win legal protection for crossdressers and transsexuals both, on the job, in housing, on the streets, and in the communities. Without recognized legal protection, we do not have social recognition and redress. Unfortunately, Merissa does not address anything but the more abstract, natural rights approach. She seems to want to continue the counter- or para-culture approach that would have the gender community continue to exist alongside society, offering no concrete means to change society. Just as the gay, lesbian, and now bi communities have organized and won legal and social rights and power, and just as the civil rights movements of African-Americans and women did,so, too, our community needs a strategy and an action plan to build its voice, its power,and its freedom.

Yes, a great deal of social education needs to be done for expanding awareness and acceptance of us by this macho, homo-phobic, and racist society (the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave, not really!). We need both social education and legal/political action.

One item where I do not agree with JoAnn is on the need to organize a Political Action Committee (PAC). Rather than giving money to a small elite of professional lobbyists, we should take the model of NOW and organize activist chapters that would involve many regular members of our community. We cannot overcome our individual fears, phobias, and closeted ways if we merely send money to a PAC. We need to change ourselves as well as society. Each and every gender person needs to participate. Else, what if they passed a law and nobody acted on it?

One approach is that of the Transgendered Alliance in the Boston area, which acts on political, social and cultural issues of human rights, social education, and gender liberation for the gender community.We need more local examples of this all over the nation.

Let's continue the discussion on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Debbie Sawyer
Massachusetts

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Dear Merissa,

I firmly believe that I have a valid reason to complain. Today, the first issue of my *Tapestry* subscription arrived. How could you? I've never been so disappointed and shocked! Did something go wrong, or was this your usual, expected and untimely mailing? Additionally, the books I had ordered arrived in a separate package. Is it your usual manner to treat all members in this fashion, or do you just reserve this unexpected treatment for new family members?

Let me tell you just what went wrong. I wrote my initial order on July 3rd, although it wasn't mailed until July 7th. According to a copy of that order which was sent with my books, your staff received that order on July 10th, and my complete order was delivered July 14th . . . of the same year, no less! I'm not used to being treated this way.

Somewhere it is chiseled in stone, "Let no mail-order package be delivered before it is expected by the customer." Near that one, another states, "The longer a customer waits for his or her order, the more they will appreciate it when it finally gets there."

I've had a lot of experience with mail-order houses over the past decades of my CD/TV life. Some of them specifically cater to the special needs, while others were national chains, like Sears and Penney's. In my experience, your order arrived about six to ten weeks too early. Even then, it should only have been a partially filled order, not complete.

I'm amazed, exasperated, giddy with delight, and astounded. What's a girl to do? I knew that sooner or later my order would arrive, but your quality service and remarkable customer relations has just floored me. Now I'm faced with the quandary of what to do. Maybe I'll just leave everything on the dining room table for awhile. Maybe after awhile I'll move them to my nightstand and let them lie there for a few weeks. Didn't you realize the type of traumatic problems that could be caused by this kind of service? It's taken me many years to overcome my own reluctance to accept me for me, and to allow Barbara to grow. Now, I have to struggle with changing my views and philosophy of mail-order. See what you've done? Maybe I'll just finish this letter and start reading the new *Tapestry*. By golly, I've waited long enough, haven't I?

Thank you sisters for making me feel a special part of your community and family. Also, thanks for allowing me to loudly voice my complaint.

Sincerely and with much affection,
Barbara Jean
Maryland

AIDS

Dear Merissa,

Just a short note to commend you for the excellent editorial in issue #61. With 230,179 confirmed cases of AIDS (Centers for Disease Control - HIV Surveillance Summary for July, 1992), and an estimated 9-11 million adults and approximately 1 million children infected with HIV (World Health Organization report for January, 1992) since the beginning of the pandemic, acknowledging this dread disease within the pages of *Tapestry* is long overdue. Thank you!

The HIV/AIDS Information BBS was honored on opening day of the VIII International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam, when HIV/NET called us and demonstrated our BBS to the 11,000 conference attendees.

The daily conference newsletter was a grim reminder of the work that must be done, not just with AIDS, but with and within the gender community. The following commentary was notable:

> Diana Alan, consultant to the National Transsexual and HIV Needs Analysis funded by the Australian government said she has identified transsexuals as a subset of sex workers with specific needs. She said that young people who do not conform to gender expectations of their cultures are likely to be thrown out of their homes. They become "educationally disadvantaged and believe they are unwanted, unemployable and worthless. They leave home and school, enter into sex work early and stay there." In her study, 40% of transsexuals had engaged in drug injection and 80% had at some time been involved in sex work. Alan notes that transsexuals are not covered by any discrimination laws or included in existing prevention strategies; they are considered neither women nor homosexuals. "Transsexuals in the Third World are treated even worse than women."

Again, thank you for recognizing AIDS in your editorial.

In His lovingkindness,
Sr. Mary Elizabeth, SSE
California

ON A LIMB

Dear Editor,

Does he have anyone to talk with, I wondered, after hearing the rumor. We worked in different departments and knew each other for little more than exchanging pleasantries if our paths crossed. Driving home that night I thought again of the rumor that Sean is a crossdresser.

I tried to put Sean out of my mind , but I found myself looking for signs. I had only heard the rumor once, and could find nothing to substantiate it. Still, I couldn't get him out of my thoughts. Does he think he's all alone?

I've been introduced to the community of transgenderists through my brother who is in the early stages of becoming a sister. It is strange for me, but not a bad strange. We talk at length, comfortably and openly. I seek to understand as he seeks to understand—but is that a possibility? Perhaps all that is available to us in this lifetime is acceptance. Perhaps it belongs in the endless question zone with others such as, why am I a lesbian, and why are you straight? Why was I born in the upper middle class of America, and why were you born in a cardboard house in the third world? Now I ask myself which is more important, understanding, or acceptance?

No one wants to be isolated and alone. Life is not an easy journey for anyone, and to feel separate from society can add to feelings of self doubt.

With all this as my foundation I knew that I had to find a way to reach out to Sean. One night at work the opportunity presented itself.

"Hi Sean. I'm going out on a limb that may snap, and if I end up on my face, I hope you will not take offense. I have a personal question which you don't have to answer. Have you ever heard of *Tapestry*?"

He was taken aback but held my eye and answered, "Yes - you mean the magazine?"

I told him of the rumor I had heard and that I wanted to be sure he had a connection somewhere. "The world can be a big,scary place and we all need a community."

Sean seemed to relax more than I had ever seen, and we went on to have a nice conversation. I told him about my brother, and he talked of the acceptance in his family. He mentioned the community in San Diego where he had been living until recently. He keeps his personal life and work life separate, for now, he added with emphasis. He thanked me for taking a chance and climbing out on that limb. He felt it affirming to have met someone else who accepts life openly, non-judgmentally.

I was affirmed as well as confident that I will venture onto other limbs that cross my path.

Connection - reaching out. Humankind.

Thank you *Tapestry* for an approach.

Sincerely,
Terri

SORRY, OUR MISTAKE

To the Editor:

Thanks so much for the copy of *Tapestry*. I think that you did an exeellent job with the history of Tri-Ess. I really appreeiate your work.

The pieture of Virginia Prince on page 41 notes that she was the founder of Tri-Ess. However, as you have noted from reading the history, she was the founder of FPE. For all praetieal matters, I was the founder of Tri-Ess.

On page 44, Donna Martin was said to be Direetor of Marketing instead of Direetor of Membership.

On page 46, the zip eode for Tri-Ess is ineorreet - what happened was they included our address correctly but accidently put Virginia's zip eode in its plaee. The eorreet zip eode is 93275.

Lastly, I thought that I sent a pieture of myself. There was a pieture of Virginia and also one of Jane Fairfax. I have enelosed a pieture of myself. I think that your readers might be interested in what Carol looks like.

None of the above takes anything away from the exeellent artiele about Tri-Ess. It's just that sometimes I feel like Rodney Dangerfield - I never get any respeet for what I have done for the past 23 years.

Sinecrely yours,
Carol Beecroft
Exeeutive Direetor
Socicty for the Seeond Self

✎ ✎ ✎ ✎

THE NEW WAY AND ANCIENT WISDOM

Dear Editor:

Your editorial, "Rena's Workshop-Aneient Wisdom," in *Tapestry* #61 went beyond all bounds of propriety in trashing Western eivilization and presenting an unrealistieally idyllie version of the Native Amerieaan eulture.

One of the central theses in this editorial is a profound differenee between traditional Western eoneepts of "respect," and that of Native Americans. We would do well, the author asserts, to emulate the type of "respeet" demonstrated by the latter. But, throughout her artiele, she makes a moekery of the term "respeet" by displaying nothing but utter eontempt for the West. We learn that the West is "based on conquest, and greed, and power . . . ," and that we are "nasty little self-eentered brats, . . . arrogant, disrespectful, . . . " and "on the path to self destruction . . ." The litany of grievanees against our culture goes on, ad nauseam, paragraph after dreary paragraph.

Native Amerieans, of eourse, are depieted as perfeet ehildren of nature, deseendants of a paradise lost that co-existed in complete peaee and harmony with its environment until those nasty Europeans "invaded." Whatever the morality of the European exploration and eolonization of Ameriea (I won't even toueh that one), it is a sad faet that much of Native American history prior to the arrival of Europeans was written in rivers of blood. War and violenee know no cultural boundaries, and to believe otherwise is the height of naïveté.

I, like most of us, am of the West. But, apparently unlike the author, I am proud of my eultural heritage. To me, we are not "a cruel soeiety with a brutal history." Indeed, I see a society whieh, despite its imperfections, has accomplished mueh for the benefit of mankind, and I am optimistic that we can do even more in the future. I am glad that the partieipants in Rena's workshop were able to diseover, through her Native American teehniques, how speeial erossdressing makes them. I, and many others that I know, have been able to do the same thing completely within the framework of our own Western eultural referenees. There is no single eorreet path to self aeeeptanee, just as there is no single eorreet model of femininity. I resent the suggestion in the editorial that the path I have ehosen is flawed, and the eoneomitant implieation that my femininity is of a lesser quality.

In my eareer I have had the opportunity to closely study and live in a non-Western culture. I have found that all eultures, ours very mueh ineluded, have positive things to offer humanity. There is also no civilization on earth, past or present, entirely devoid of ugliness, even evil. The author is eorreet in one regard - we ean and must open our eyes to the beauty of all eivilizations, ineluding that of the Native Amerieans. By doing so, all of us are uplifted. But the West is special because it is ours. It is to be eherished rather than maligned; it is to be nurtured into something better and not eondemned for its imperfeetions.

Sincerely,
Melissa Thompson
Texas

Dear Editor:

I have reeently read a book I saw reviewed in the *TV/TS Tapestry*, *The Spirit in the Flesh* by Walter L. Williams. I was struek that the Indians interviewed by Williams and by female anthropologists stated that it was berdaehes who created the entire Indian eulture! Think of the Aztees, the Mayans, and the Ineas. What a proud elaim!

Is there not a respectable theory that eulture, eivilization itself, is always created by a leisure elass? Who was the leisure class among the Indians? The average male was a hunter, a warrior, and a father. The berdaches seldom did any of those things. Nor did they have to bear ehildren.Williams says berdaches were quite numerous, henee they were a class.

On a praetieal level, the berdache performed all the duties of the modern artist, artisan, daneer, religious leader, historian, teacher, nurse, soeial worker, doetor, psychiatrist, . . . They

nursed the sick. They adopted and raised orphans. When women were available to help with weaving or other arts and crafts, the berdaches became the organizers and taskmasters. They might arrange a marriage. They danced, they chanted, they painted, and they cast magic spells.

Could these men/women have been the only civilized people on earth for eons? Anthropologists have a rule of thumb that whatever modern stone age people did, we ourselves did not long ago. I've read that the ancient Celts (Irish especially) apparently had berdaches. Those who love ancient history know that Nero occasionally dressed as a woman. They know that King Ashurbanipal, dreaded warrior, conqueror of Babylon, Egypt, Persia, and Syria, patron of the arts, lived as a woman in his palace. They know that there were so many castrated men in the Byzantine Empire that they held annual parades, and they constituted the whole civil service. They know that there are legends from all over the ancient world of male religious leaders who dressed as women, of entire cults of such men.

Were the priests of ancient Egypt berdaches? They created the alphabet, laid the foundations of mathematics, astronomy, chemistry, physics, medicine, art, and, yes, even domesticated the cat.

And what of Jesus Christ himself? Are not 22 years of his life a total mystery? Why the cover up? I say it's the same old story as with the American Indian. Jesus Christ's followers were straight males who chose to cover up their leader's past as a berdache!

Another group that doesn't have much use for transsexuals or berdaches is the gays. It is often correctly recognized that TVs and TSs owe a lot to the gays who fought for their rights and opened up society for the rest of us. But everyone, especially the gays, chooses to ignore the fact that the great Stonewall riots that set off the gay movement around the world were started by transsexuals and drag queens. Objecting to being hauled away by the police in a routine harassment raid on the Stonewall Bar,these ladies began to bash police with purses, bottles, anything at hand, while screaming for assistance from boyfriends. The latter charged into the fray, like so many Dudley Do-Rights, a social explosion was generated.

Let's have some respect!

Sincerely,
Catanja,
Texas

▫▫▫▫

BEGINNING

Dear Editor:

I'm a beginner, as they say, but a beginner with 44 years of experience. You know me. Every one of your readers knows me. You've read my life history in each of the hundreds of letters from frustrated and exhilarated CDs who ever wrote to *Tapestry*.

As I approached the holiday season under great job stress and away from my family for days on end, I questioned what life is all about and why, if I'm so happy, why aren't I, well, happy. On top of my list of questions about myself was, Why do I have this need to wear women's clothing and make-up? Why do I want to feel feminine? Am I gay? If so, I'm not very good at it since I don't have any attraction to men. I needed answers.

I broke my "problem" to my wife of 20 years one night shortly before Christmas by asking her if I could experience the feel of her makeup. She spouted out, "You're a crossdresser, aren't you?"

She proceeded to tell me more about crossdressing than I ever imagined she could know. She told me that she understood my needs and desires, and that while she was deeply troubled, and had great fear that I would be discovered , she told me that I was welcome to try on her make-up and that I should not feel embarrassed by my situation. She said, however, that I needed to get a handle on things so her fears would not be realized. She suggested that since I travel several days per week, a hotel room would be a safer place to explore my needs. She cautioned me that she could not handle coming home and finding me with her bra and panties on and she asked if I needed to "dress" in addition to wearing makeup. When I said that I did, she suggested that I not involve her, but that in time she might be able to help me resolve my feelings but for now she could not face the image of her husband in a dress.

"How do you know these things?"

"Of course I know about crossdressing. They even have organizations for men who crossdress. I've seen shows about it on Donahue, Sally and Oprah!"

Two days later I left for a business trip, even more in love with my wonderful wife who displayed to me her feminine love, compassion and understanding as best she could, given the trauma of her situation. I arrived in New York and picked up a copy of the *Village Voice* to find a jazz concert or similar pastime. Finding an ad for a crossdressers' boutique, and another for a transformation salon, I changed my schedule and visited both. There I was introduced to *Tapestry* and through *Tapestry* to the many legitimate publications that could answer some of my questions. I obtained a copy of *My Husband Wears My Clothes* by Peggy Rudd and immediately felt that should the decision ever be mine for naming someone to sainthood, it would be Peggy.

Every letter by every cross-dresser found in *Tapestry* had elements of my life in it. My experience is so typical it must be classic. Yet my life has changed drastically for the better. In the ten weeks that followed my initial crisis which led to my confession to my wife, my problem has become a blessing. Like a soul "born again," my love and respect for my wife is even stronger, and my self-respect has been restored. For the first time in my entire life, I feel that I am on the verge of knowing myself.

I have acquired a wardrobe with the help of my advisor and teacher, my wife. I've shopped alone for myself in a safe environment, and I've had a make over and transformation. I've come a long way, and, while no candidate for Miss Universe, I'm pretty respectable in a dress if I do say so myself. My life has taken on new priorities. With a deeper love for my wife and an ability and a willingness to express my feelings for her, our world has changed. We no longer have a "problem,"

only a new, exciting life. While we are still husband and wife, we are also best of friends and, at times, sisters. She has taken pride in my dress and deportment, and I've given her a few tips on her makeup and hair, too! We shop together (although I have enough sense not to go out en femme). We talk. (An amazing accomplishment that only took two decades to achieve!) I've lost 25 pounds and have another 15 on the run. I've quit biting my fingernails. I haven't yelled at other drivers in rush hour traffic in weeks! My daughter came to me with great concern to ask, "Dad, are you sure that you didn't just find out that you are going to die, or something? You're so different."

We have set limits that preserve our traditional marriage and recognize my need for expression of my feminine self.I respect my wife's needs and give her the macho guy she married soon after she allows me to be the girl I enjoy being.

Mostly my life has changed for the better, because of IFGE, its people, and the many people in organizations like it around the country who have dedicated their lives to my happiness. Thank God that my wife saw Donahue and Sally and Oprah. Thank God she knew that there were organizations for the thousands like me, and that she didn't think that I am some perverted, one-of-a-kind specimen in need of institutionalization. Thank God that organizations have begun to educate the world.

We need to do more. (Note that I said "we".) You have my name and address and I will do what I can to help make our existence known to every one of us who may still be suffering alone in his or her closet. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

Sincerely,
Ms Kelly Stevens

FAR AWAY IS FAR AWAY

Dear Editor,

Not unlike most smaller cities in the United States and Canada, the TV/TS community in Winnipeg is particularly deep underground. As you most likely know, the lack of a noticeable gender community has a detrimental effect not only on those who suffer from the loneliness of no gender-related support system, but also on those who would benefit from the knowledge that such a community exists. I speak of professionals and non-professionals alike. I have been warned against seeking help at local hospitals where transsexuals have been labeled as mentally ill, or have been told that they are nothing more than homosexual crossdressers. Cases such as this have probably been duplicated in cities where professional support is uninformed and ultimately guided by supposition and rumor.

TV/TS-orientated people here have no place to get non-sexual gender-oriented material which meets emotional needs rather than sexual (I bought my copy of the TV/TS *Tapestry* while visiting the United States). Knowledge about transsexualism is culled from either mass-media, which tend to emphasize the quirky or 'freakish' aspects of transsexualism, or from the sexually-biased media, such as magazines that are found in sex shops. Places like the city library, where quality information should be available, do not hold any unbiased books on gender dysphoric issues. Is it any wonder professionals lack an informed point of view when the media provide a distorted perspective of transsexualism for the titillation of the public.

While I have been concentrating on the negative aspects of being a transsexual in my city I have found there are certain positive aspects worth noting as well. However, these aspects are more personal than political. I have been able to connect with professionals who are both willing to support and help me to the end of my quest. Unfortunately these people are confined to working within systems that do not want to acknowledge that transsexualism exists.

This brings me, back to why *Tapestry* is wonderful. It is encouraging to know that I have a link to a whole community. With this in mind I am enclosing money to subscripe to *Tapestry* so that I do not lose contact with my community!

Sincerely,
Melissa,
Canada

"LIGHTEN UP LADIES"

Dear Editor:

The article by Lee Reynolds, "Lighten up Ladies" is the most insightful thing I've read in *Tapestry* in many issues.

The feeling of femininity is one of the most uplifting feelings that I experience. I can have this feeling any time, dressed or not. One of my favorite pastimes is to answer the phone with my most feminine voice, honed in after reading Alison Laing's *Speaking as a Woman*, and get that wonderful, "Yes, ma'am." The glow sometimes lasts for a day or two!

The apex of this type of experience occurred one day at the counter of a service company. The male clerk and I were discussing details. I was dressed male, but apparently my feminine persona came through. (I am not effeminate.) He said, "Yes, ma'am," looked up and quickly added, "Oh, excuse me, I'm sorry." I smiled. That glow lasted two days!

I also notice that when I smile at people for no apparent reason in parking lots, in malls, etc., practically every woman smiles back. Most men don't. Now, is that because I am a man?

Then there's the masculine dominant left brain: logic, mechanical, things, no feelings; and the feminine dominant right brain: artistic, sensitive, people, feelings. I am an engineer. I love things mathematical, mechanical, and electronic (left brain). I also love opera, the ballet, the symphony, art (right brain). I have never been uncomfortable with this "dichotomy."

Apparently my right brain is not as fully developed as it might be. My wife often says I don't pay enough attention when people (read women)talk about personal things, medical problems,or their children.

So, what does it all add up to? I enjoy both the masculine and feminine sides. And that, coming from someone deep in the closet is a real accomplishment!

Sincerely,
Stella Bamvil
Maryland

Dear Editor:

The editorial by Lee Reynolds, "Lighten up Ladies" is fine, but for a great many CDs, to lighten up is almost impossible. The cost of discovery can be extreme, not counting the embarrassment. Not too many Cds are good enough, or confident enough, to carry it off. Those who can, either have done it for a long time, or have features feminine enough to help. Local laws and the attitude of law enforcement officers can be a big factor in the "public experience."

I would like to have gone out, but I wasn't passable by any measure of the imagination. And was too terrified to try. There are many steps before a girl can begin to lighten up, a lot of variables, and it helps to have nerves of steel.

There is a great difference between a man and a woman, but many CDs cannot lighten up because of local circumstances either. Many other factors can conspire to keep us in the closet.

Sincerely,
Sheila
Washington

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BEFORE YOU. . . YOU SHOULD. . .

Dear Editor:

I've been rereading Merissa's editorial before she went and had her surgery. To intentionally overstate it, individuals considering hormonal/surgical routes should be required to memorize certain parts of that editorial before going on. The message is that important.

1) A gut level feeling is never enough to go on, for anyone, no matter what they may say. It's like not wearing a seat-belt because you "know" you'll never be involved in a car accident. No one that I know of has that luxury.

2) Each of us must spend a lot of time learning who we are, integrating our personality, as a human being, not as a woman or as a man.

3) This contemplated (or needed) journey must not be tagged as transsexual. I will not condemn the terminology (as much as it is abused) as it has its uses in conveying information between helping professionals. The term gender dysphoria seems more appropriate. To say "transsexual" conveys an end, and connotes a stereotype. How long has the gay community endured stereotypes? We are all human beings.

For those who insist on hanging a stereotype on a person, I think laziness is a mean accusation. Fear is better, and more apt. There is a lot of fear in coming to grips with ourselves. Are we (forgive me) transsexuals, cross-dressers, homosexuals, homophobic, compulsive or obsessive? Which one do you, or I, want to use? How does it fit in with our values? Which one do we fear the least? Which one offers more hope for (societally-defined) 'normality'? After years and years of suffering, who wants to endure more soul-searching? What will you, or I, discover? I don't blame the fearful. What we don't know about ourselves is always frightening.

As Merissa and others have stated, this fear must be dealt with. It is an exploration of our deepest self to determine whether you or I would be better off as Denise or David; gay, straight or bi. Others have learned this lesson. Each of us who is anguishing must do so.

A suggestion: run more articles on those who have made mistakes, ending sometimes in tragedy, sometimes in self-discovery. This is not to remind us of the sadness, but to teach. Many of us will remember Drivers' Ed. in school, and that famous film showing accidents and the grizzly victims. We are told these are the results of not paying attention to what we are doing or where we are going. Not taking the proper precautions. The analogy, i believe, is correct. The terrible endings will make us think. More optimistically, the stories about those who have discovered in time that SRS, or hormones, were not right for them are coping, happy, and growing. That will serve to give hope.

I will always try to learn. I make mistakes. Oh, do I make mistakes! But, I learn, and I grow.

Sincerely,
Patricia
Minnesota

✎✎✎✎

OUT OF THE MANY, ONE

Dear Editor:

Being able to read the various viewpoints of individual realities is important to anyone struggling with identity or gender conflict. I applaud the Editor, Sheila Kirk, Nancy Cole, and Nancy Reynolds for making the hard choice to write about issues that have had a direct effect upon their decision-making process. And, for bringing out of the mountains of Colorado the picture and words of sexual reassignment surgery, bringing out of their lives the personal choices they have made.This is the most relevant form of human communication.

We, as a community, are comprised of many hopes and dreams, many thoughts and considerations, many fears and trepidations, yet we are all together in our wants and needs to find acceptance in different gender rôles. We need, as a community, to express and accept the variety of individual opinions, expressions, activity, and approaches to our common situations. We must communicate with society and describe the rich brocade that binds us together.

So, I say, it is wonderful that the transsexual issue is on the table. Let us each look at the truth and the facts so that we can make our own decisions. Let us look also at Nancy Cole's and at Nancy Reynolds' writing and be impressed by their struggles to reach a balance in their lives.

Our community needs more of this communication. It needs to be forthright in the messages to each other and to society. I look forward to many more issues of the *Tapestry* with a balance of issues placed before us so that we may look, learn, and grow as individuals.

Merissa, thank you for your many years of open struggle, and for raising our and society's consciousness about our special nature. Thank you Nancy Cole and Nancy Reynolds for your open and insightful messages. You honored yourselves and our community. Each of you has helped communicate the message that our community is made up of many patterns and designs. Each of you has

given a gift of knowledge to the reader with which he or she can move forward into tomorrow and face their life with the knowledge that they are not alone.

Thanks!

Sincerely,
Kerri Reeder
Massachusetts

BETWEEN A ROCK AND...

Dear Editor:

I watched with great interest the excellent videotape, *Husbands and Wives*, *Best Friends and Lovers*,produced by Donna Mobley.

I am a married crossdresser, age 57. My wife of 35 years tolerates my crossdressing, but doesn't understand it. I cannot get myself to talk to her about it. Her knowledge of my crossdressing comes from her having discovered me by accident once. We both go along as if it doesn't exist(although it certainly does exist).

I thought if I had the names and addresses of the wives in the video who seemed so understanding, it might be an opportunity to ask her to talk to one of them. I fear discussing it with her because I'm afraid of rejection, and I don't want to lose her or the pleasure that comes from my crossdressing. I'm concerned that our discussing it could lead to our crossing swords over it. I thought if she could talk to some understanding wives, it might be better.

I'm afraid to give her any of the literature I have as I fear a reaction that might accuse "us" of just trying to brainwash "them" about our "need" for our gratification.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jay K.
Illinois

Dear whomever:

Please send my husband any and all material possible on crossdressing or transvestism. We have been married for 20 years and he has been practicing this for the entire time.

If you desire a different viewpoint on this, please let me know. My life with this man has been a nightmare, and I didn't exactly appreciate your representation on the *Geraldo Rivera Show* as if it were all just "fine." It is not fine.

My husband has, in effect, been having an affair with his female self all these years, and it has had the same devastating effect on our family as any cheating spouse. For awhile he tried blaming it on me. If I were more feminine, he wouldn't have the need to crossdress. Then, he blamed his parents. He has forever been blaming someone or something, and it has never been his fault. Obviously, he needs some educating.

I've lived for 20 years in fear of the police coming to my door at 2:00am having busted him in drag some place, or of his being fired from one of his jobs for "dressing out" at work, which I know has been his practice. Why can't you people see that this compulsion can be very damaging, and not everyone on earth is all accepting of such aberrant behavior?

Most sincerely,
J. D.
Arizona

THANKS, THANKS A LOT!

To whom it may concern:

Last week I called your organization to request any material available for a paper I was writing for my Developmental Psychology class. The purpose of my paper was to help eliminate prejudice and enlighten my peers on the subject of transvestism. The person I spoke to was helpful and very friendly. Not only did you send me the magazine *Tapestry*, but additional material that was very helpful. I am happy to see that there are organizations like IFGE available for support.

By the way, I got a B+!

Sincerely,
Louise D.
New York

CHECK YOUR PERSONAL LISTING

Dear Editor:

The *Tapestry* has improved a great deal. But, I would like to address this note to the people in the Personal Listing section. I've noticed that a lot of those seeking personal contacts need help in the writing and style of their ad. The idea is to enhance the positive qualities to get correspondence

For example, I'm corresponding with a certain TV and she tells me that I'm the second person to write to her. She hasn't had any other correspondents. Of course, she didn't include a picture with her ad. Also, many advertisers would like to hear from women/genetic females. Would someone at the *Tapestry* please write an article telling the advertisers how to properly draft a Personal Listing? Start by telling them that their idea of finding an "understanding and accepting woman" through the pages of the *Tapestry* are nil to zero. How many women pick up a copy of *Tapestry* at their local newsstand? Few, if any!

You might tell your advertisers to include a photograph. A good photo is a must! The advertiser can have a Ph.D. in cosmetology, but, unless she has a picture that makes her look attractive, she won't get much mail response. After all, the purpose of this section is to provide a "visual" look at the advertisers as much as a written ad. If you don't think so, just market an issue of *Tapestry* with absolutely no pictures of TV/TS/TG/etc. anywhere, whether on the cover or inside,and see how it sells.

I hope I've been of help.

Sincerely,
Rhonda
Massachusetts

IN LOVING MEMORY

Dear *Tapestry*:

Please remove Dy Anne from your mailing list. Dy Anne committed suicide. In all the confusion and despair, he/she took a gun and blew his/her head away.

I want to thank *Tapestry* magazine for the attempt to provide information. Sometimes your magazine provided the only reality there was. Dy Anne's efforts to be heard were greeted with ridicule and shame, and with disgust and withdrawal by the professionals in a male-dominated society. The Veterans' Administration had their fair share, too!

Dy Anne was locked into only two answers: death or a sex change. Having her sex changed was not a choice because of the money required. Living in a society that worships male character rôles and seeing females as second-class citizens left Dy Anne confused and wounded. Living in a community referred to as a Bible Belt, and being brought up in a family of control through religion held big power over Dy Anne. Her Dad was a priest in the Russian Church. He wanted to do an exorcism to rid him/her of the demon.

I am the only voice left to tell Dy Anne's story. I feel frustrated and angry because no one would listen to her and hear. No one wants to hear or listen to me either when I try to tell. Dy Anne's suicide should never have been a choice, but it became the only one for him/her!

Thank you again for the efforts you are making to understand.

Sincerely,

Dianne Nolan,
friend, lover and companion

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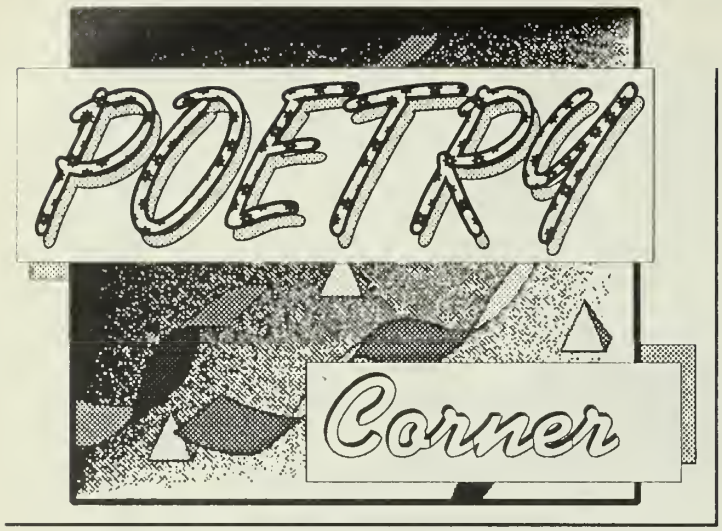

THE LADY UNDERNEATH

by April L. Willis

For years I've hid the woman
Who's always shared my life.
But recently introduced her
To the woman who's my wife.
They got along rather well.
They laughed and talked a bit.
My wife began to teach her
How to walk and stand and sit.
Shopping trips for dresses.
Makeup tips and fashion, too.
My two best friends together.
Every experience was new.
Everyone has a secret
They hide without a trace.
Mine lies between my clothes,
Silks, satins and lace.
But my wife has met the lady
Who for years I've had to hide.
There's no problem, they are friends,
And always at my side.
The lady who for years I've hid,
And never left a trace,
Now is free to come and go,
And show her pretty face.

YOU ARE OLD FATHER WILLIAM

by Karen Barclay, *with apologies to Lewis Carroll*

"You are old, Father William," the young man said,
"And your legs are no longer hairy,
You now wear a wig and you paint your lips red,
Don't you think, at your age, this is scary?"

"In my youth," Father William replied to his son,
"I fear I became very femme,
And now that I know I'm no longer alone,
Why, I dress up again and again."

"You are old," said the youth, "as I mentioned before,
And have grown most uncommonly kind,
Yet everyone says you were once such a bore,
Do you think that you're losing your mind?"

"In my youth," said the sage, as he shook his blond hair,
"I never had time for compassion,
But as I grew older, I learned how to care,
While I practiced at makeup and fashion."

"You are old," said the youth, "and it has to be said,
That you used to be tougher than leather,
But you cried in the church when your daughter was wed,
Is it something to do with the weather?"

"In my youth," said his father, "I lived in the bar,
And argued each night with my wife,
Now we run the support group (we go in the car),
And lead a far gentler life."

"You are old," said the youth, "one would hardly suppose
That any would find this amazing,
But you look very good in your dress, heels and hose,
Tell me, what is the special occasion?"

"Less of the old," she replied with a grin,
"I'm off to the party," quoth she,
"There's no need to stay up until I come in,
I'll let myself in with a key."

GREETINGS

by Sue

TWO MEN IN THE STREET
CAN THIS BE A GREETING
A HANDSHAKE'S A CHALLENGE
WHO HERE IS STRONGER
EYEBALL TO EYEBALL
SOON ONE LOOKS AWAY
WHO HERE IS STRONGER
WHICH OF THESE MEN
A WOMAN'S GREETING
TWO ARMS ENCIRCLE
HEART TO HEART
THERE'S NO ROOM FOR CHALLENGE
AND SHE SEES WITH HER HEART
ENCIRCLING ARMS
SO MAKE MINE A GREETING
LET'S ISSUE NO CHALLENGE
LET'S OFFER THE GREETING
LET'S STAND HEART TO HEART
AND OFFER A GREETING

THEIR HANDSHAKE IS FIRM
FRIENDLY AND WARM
A HANDSHAKE'S A TEST
WHO HERE IS BEST
THEY STAND TOE TO TOE
AND NOW WE KNOW
WHO HERE IS BEST
HAS STOOD UP TO THE TEST
IS TENDER AND MILD
LIKE A MOTHER HER CHILD
BEYOND FACE TO FACE
IN A WOMAN'S EMBRACE
WHAT LIES WITHIN
IN THE HEART OF A FRIEND
TENDER AND MILD
LET'S OFFER NO TEST
I LIKE THE BEST
BEYOND FACE TO FACE
A FRIENDLY EMBRACE

BERDACHE

by Abby S.

They say you have taken many scalps
And stand firm like the mountain
You have taken game others could not even see
In that time no warrior would challenge you
Now you redden your lips and wear flowers
You speak with white-bearded wisdom
But your cheek is soft and clean
You are ferocious as the lion
And touch me as lightly
As a newly emerging caddis

Now the fish rise and offer themselves to you
Flame follows the motion of your hands
You use lightning to draw faces in the sky
I ask you how or why
And you offer me your breast

DY

Her dress was soft and gentle pink.
Her hand was warm and curled carefully in mine.
We walked silently through the night.
Her heels clicked with each step upon the path.
The night wrapped itself closely around us.
The trees stood tall, sheltering us from the cold.
Round and round, up and through the night.
If only we could walk like this forever . . .
Helping each other, holding each other, loving each other.
It was summer.
There was another night when it was winter,
The candles flickered with a warm glow,
Arms wrapped around each other,
Bodies touching with a warm glow.
You said, "I love you and I care."
I felt I had tricked you and I cried.
Did I cry because I wanted it so,
Or was it the pain of remembering the days of long ago.

Dianne Nolan, June 22, 1992

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DEALERS WELCOME

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

by Naomi Owen

(Presented at a luncheon meeting during the Coming Together - Working Together convention held in Houston, Texas, April 1992.)

My Dear Friends:

When Sheila called and asked me to deliver today's "keynote" address, I responded by asking her, "What do you want me to speak about?"

Sheila replied, "Anything you want."

Her response reminded me of the old one-liner, "What does a lion eat for lunch? Anything she wants."

A few years ago, I went to a retirement dinner for a federal judge in Chicago. During the question and answer session after dinner, a reporter asked, "What did you like the most about being a judge?" His reply was, "The nice thing about being a judge is nothing starts until you get there and everything stops when you leave—and there's no heavy lifting."

Well, I'm no judge! And I certainly don't feel like a lion! But I do relish the opportunity to stand up here and have your undivided attention, just like a federal judge, and talk about anything I want. Deep down inside, however, I do think the real reason I was given this opportunity to talk about anything I want, even though you have already heard three "keynote" addresses at this convention—the real reason is to prevent me from giving a 55–minute talk tomorrow night. And, there's no heavy lifting.

Notice that when I started this talk, I began by saying, "My dear friends . . ." and not, "In the beginning . . ." That should have been a clue that you will not be hearing a 55 minute talk today. On the other hand, I don't want you getting into any trouble between now and 2:00pm, so let me tell you what's on my mind so that tomorrow night we can have a little fun.

"In the beginning . . ."

If you accept tradition, you have been told that the Creator, whoever SHE might be, created this world in six days, and on the seventh she rested. That's an interesting concept. Work hard! Do what you have to do for six days, and then take a day to rest, relax, and contemplate what you have accomplished over the previous six—and what needs to be done in the next six.

My traditional upbringing also taught me that when you reach the end of a year and start a New Year, it's time to pause and reflect on what has been accomplished over the past year. My New Year is not a time for wild celebration. It is a time for serious self-examination—a review of the past. It is a time to relax, contemplate, and to recharge one's batteries, if you will. It's a time to atone for past errors and get rid of your old faults. And, it's a time to start planning for the new year with a clean slate.

This interesting tradition of taking a day (or year) for rest and reflection is followed in many cultures. And, I'm not just talking about religious cultures. For example, last week I received a letter from the Dean of my law school. In it he talks about the American Bar Association law school reaccreditation process which takes place—get this—every seventh year! As part of this process, the law school was required to produce a lengthy "Self-Study" that reviewed in detail the strengths and weaknesses of the law school. (As a graduate I was happy to learn that there are no weaknesses at the University of Chicago School of Law!)

Naomi Owen:

- *6th recipient of the Virginia Prince Lifetime Service award.*
- *Twelve years continuous service to our community.*
- *Co-founder and director of the Be All You Want To Be conference.*
- *Eight years president of Chi Chapter, Tri Ess.*
- *Twice director of the Holiday En Femme.*
- *Six year member of the IFGE Board of Directors.*
- *Six year chairperson of the IFGE Legal & By-Laws committee.*
- *Author of the IFGE Constitution.*
- *Past member of the Outreach Institute Board of Directors.*
- *Member of the Tri Ess Board of Directors.*
- *Public speaker with over 300 public appearances.*

Taking time off for rest and reflection can take many unusual forms. For example, in Israel today it is common practice for farmers to give their livestock and their land time off to rest and rejuvenate. That is why "strictly kosher wine" means that the producers of that wine have cultivated their vineyards for six years and on the seventh year they let the vineyard lie fallow. Of course, they stagger this year of rest so that not all their vineyards are fallow for the same year and therefore they can continue to produce wine every year.

If I'm not mistaken, it is also a practice in some of our Native American cultures for tribal members to take time to pause, reflect, and contemplate. And this period of time is considered to be part of the growth process. In Native American culture, and in many other cultures, all of the Creator's creations, including the lands, the skies, and its inhabitants are told to take time to rest, reflect, and rejuvenate.

Now, you didn't come here to listen to a sermon. So, how does this relate to IFGE? Well, IFGE was chartered six years ago, we are now entering our seventh year. Let me reassure you that I don't advocate closing down IFGE for a year, but I do think that we in IFGE need time to pause, reflect, contemplate, and digest all we have accomplished these past six years before we charge off on another period of growth and accomplishment. Now is the time to review what has been done, and start thinking about where we go from here, and what do we need to accomplish during our next period. Now is a time to review our strengths and weaknesses, And now is a time to set new goals.

Now is the time to review what has been done, and start thinking about where we go from here, and what do we need to accomplish

I first met Merissa in 1980. At that time she and I, as a neophyte, were involved in another project called Fantasia Fair. Little did I know back in 1980 that the seeds of IFGE had already been planted in Merissa's mind. It was shortly after that that Merissa produced her "infamous" white paper which resulted in an extraordinary meeting at Chicago House. (What a great name!) Chicago House is a guest house on Winslow Street in Provincetown. (That's how the Winslow Street Fund got its name.) I was there. And, over a lunch table at the old Pronto restaurant in Provincetown, there was another gathering which included Merissa, myself, Lynda Frank, and I'm not sure who else. Well, it was out of Merissa's mind, and her white paper, and the meeting on Winslow Street, and the Pronto lunch that IFGE was conceived. And in October of 1986 the IFGE baby was born and delivered.

IFGE is about to complete a six-year period of amazing first growth. It's time we engage in a "Self-Study." I cannot tell you that I have done an in-depth analysis of our strengths and weaknesses, but I am going to share with you my list of what I perceive to be our most important "Hits" and "Misses."

FIRST, on my list of successes is the fact that IFGE exists. We exist not just on paper, or in someone's mind. We are a living breathing thing. We have an identity and an image. We have a home, and we have leaders, and we have a dedicated staff of people like Merissa and Yvonne and many others. This is a major accomplishment!

SECOND, we have made a creditable start of converting IFGE from an *ad hoc* Ma and Pa operation into a smoothly running, efficient, professional organization. Despite limited resources, lack of experience and training, we have made enormous progress in getting our house in order. This, too, is a major accomplishment!

THIRD, the *Tapestry* is, by far, the best publication of its kind anywhere. It is the best source of community-wide news and information. And, I am genuinely impressed with its quality and appearance, and its content. It is well written, well laid out, and well planned; and keeps getting better! My compliments to Merissa, and Vivian, and Stacey, and Yvonne, and Dan, and Christina, and Holly, and all the other contributors and staff people who have produced an absolutely marvelous publication.

FOURTH on my "Hit" list is this Coming Together - Working Together Convention which has done a superb job in bringing together the various segments of our community. Contact has been made with, and voices have been heard from, persons and groups who have never before been involved in a community-wide effort. This convention is directly responsible for creating a spirit of cooperation among divergent segments of our community. This, too, is a major accomplishment!

FIFTH, we have discovered and developed a resource pool of knowledgeable and talented people who have provided IFGE with the wisdom, guidance, and leadership for the future. Our most valuable asset is our people. And this, too, is a major accomplishment.

AND SIXTH, we have begun to focus on important issues in research, program development, outreach, self-development, education, and helping professional cooperation. And, the ways to raise funds to support these programs and projects. Our fund-raising people have done a sensational job in a short time, and they are eager and anxious to do even more. This, too, is a major accomplishment.

You may quite reasonably wonder why I think it appropriate for us to boast about our accomplishments in this way. It is not, I assure you, for the sake of self-adulation. Far be it from Naomi to resort to that! Rather, it is because it occurred to me that, as generous supporters of IFGE, you are entitled to know our successes, as well as our hopes, our ambitions, and our aspirations. Only then can you know whether your support is at least headed in the right direction.

Now, let me focus on what I believe are a few of our "Misses."

The FIRST is something that really concerns me and seems, like the tide, to ebb and flow. I am disturbed, shocked, and at times outraged by some of the sniping, griping, and complaining that has emerged from a few segments of our community. I've seen newsletters and publications produced by some members of the community. I've heard comments made at this and at other conventions and meetings. And, I've seen and read letters produced by individuals and groups. Some of it is illogical. Some of it is factually wrong. Some of it is highly critical of individuals and other groups. And some of it is down-right mean and nasty. Much of it is couched in an attitude of, "I'm OK, you're not!" Well, this kind of stuff doesn't sit well with me. I don't think any of us is so squeaky clean to be critical or insensitive to the thoughts and feelings of others. Frankly, I don't think we should be wasting our energy and resources by shooting each other in the foot. It's counterproductive.

I'm not blaming any one particular person, segment, or group for starting the cross-fire. Opening shots have occurred from all directions. But, what do you think can be accomplished by these tactics except for the expenditure of an oversupply of testosterone? Soon, what starts out as a minor disagreement turns into a war with cannon-shot flying everywhere. As is the case in most cross-fires of this sort, it's not long before an innocent bystander gets hurt. In my way of thinking, it may be OK to disagree, but being disagreeable is quite another matter.

Freedom of speech and the press, and the opportunity to voice an opinion does not give anyone the right to libel, slander, insult, or be obnoxious. While I don't think IFGE should be held responsible for someone else's doings, I do think there is more IFGE could be doing to mediate disputes and to make sure that all points of view are fairly aired, discussed, and explored. Those engaged in cross-fire need to learn that to gain respect for your point of view, you need to earn it. And you earn respect by giving respect. That means you need to be sensitive to the other person's feelings. You need to listen even if you don't agree, and you need to be polite and respectful. I hope all this nonsense is behind us so we can get on with the job of working together on some really important issues.

I also think that IFGE has "missed" the boat by not getting the most effective service out of its Board of Directors. That's not Merissa's fault. It's the Board's fault. And, since I am a member of that Board, I share the blame. I think we are on the way to remedying that situation, but let me explain what I am talking about. We have set up an elaborate system to elect directors. Each candidate slated by the Nominating Committee has been told before hand that the IFGE Board is a working Board, and that if elected, he or she is expected to attend Board meetings and to take an active rôle in IFGE activities. Most have kept their commitment -- a few, above and beyond the call of duty. Unfortunately, there have been a few Directors who think the election is merely a popularity contest. And, once elected, they have disappeared.

Until now we have had only one scheduled Board meeting each year. That's a problem I hope will soon be

remedied by the scheduling of regular Board meetings three or four times a year. Now I can understand someone not being able to attend a meeting because of a work conflict or because of family, medical, or financial reasons. But, when you only have one meeting a year, I believe it is incumbent on a Director who misses that meeting to find another way to keep his or her commitment to participate. Believe it or not, we have had Directors who have never attended a Board meeting, and have never offered their services in some other manner. We on the Board have done nothing about this except to rely on the Nominating Committee to not re-slate that person when their term expires. That could be up to three years later. That's not enough!

When I wrote this talk about two weeks ago, I was concerned about how the IFGE Board was functioning. I am happy to report that 19 of 21 Board members are here at this convention. So, perhaps my concerns were unfounded. On the other hand, with 19 of the Board members here, ready and willing to work, it's time for IFGE to take these out-stretched hands and put them to work. My suggestion to next year's Philadelphia Planning Committee is that we move the Board meeting to earlier in the week so the Board has sufficient time to adequately deliberate the important issues concerning our organization. This is part of what I mean about getting more effective service out of the Board.

The last item on my "miss" list concerns the Congress of Representatives. After getting off to a nice start, this independent body has been virtually dormant for the past two years. The Congress has an important rôle to play in the IFGE patch-work quilt. Its purpose is two-fold: 1) to provide feedback to the IFGE Board on what

needs to be done (mind you, it's not to tell the Board how something should be done, but, rather, what needs to be done), and 2) to act as a communications link between IFGE and the community of organizations.

The Congress should have its own life and identity, its own leaders, and its own agenda. And, if IFGE can, in turn, resist telling the Congress how to function and operate, and if IFGE can resist telling the Congress how something should be done, and focus instead on what needs to be done, then I think you will be very pleasantly surprised by the results. Give the Congress an opportunity to grow and be creative! Give it a chance to come together and work together!

Now, let me share with you my " Wish List" of things I hope happen during our next six years.

FIRST, I wish IFGE would find a new home with adequate facilities in which to operate. This facility must be attractively furnished and accessible to our members and to the general public. We need meeting space, storage space, and space for a library or even a museum and exhibition gallery. We need space for producing and publishing *Tapestry* and our other publications, space for a bookstore or gift shop, and office space. This would go a long way toward creating a quality professional image. And, if you look good, you feel good!

SECOND, in addition to having a quality image, you must also be able to furnish quality service and programming. Under Merissa's and Yvonne's devoted leadership, we have made great strides in the past six years, but we have a long way to go before we can join the real-world of competent and efficient non-profit professional charitable organizations. We must set new goals and establish procedures for performance.

We are fortunate in having many persons in our community who have the talent, the experience, and the know-how to help us grow and develop. I wish these people would step forward and offer their assistance. And, I hope our staff people would accept this assistance as a learning and growth experience, and not as criticism. Without in any way underestimating the challenges that lie ahead, I am optimistic that the Board, the Staff, the members, and the friends of IFGE are up to the task.

(By the way, if there is a CPA out there, I wish you would step forward. That's a Certified Public Accountant, not cleaning, pressing, and alterations.)

THIRD, I wish that we find additional outlets for the distribution of *Tapestry* and our other fine publications. I am well aware that a substantial part of our income is generated by sales through adult book stores where we are forced to share shelf space with all kinds of bizarre and sleazy publications. And, I know that many *Tapestry* readers, mostly male, have been trained to go to the adult book store for *Tapestry*. But, there are tens of thousands, perhaps millions of our brothers and sisters out there who have never patronized an adult book store, and have no intention of doing so. They, along with our wives, husbands, and partners have been left out of the communications chain. *Tapestry* is too good and too important to be found only at the adult book store. Wouldn't it be nice if *Tapestry* could be found in regular book stores, and on regular book and magazine stands, and in major public, private, and university libraries around the country?

FOURTH, I wish that we find new sources of income. Our Fund Raising Committee has done a remarkable job in raising money for the Winslow Street Fund and the Christine Jorgensen Fund. But, until now, it has been the *Tapestry* that has provided the funds for our general operating expenses. (In case you are wondering, conventions are not money makers.) Contributions to special funds can fluctuate widely from year to year, especially when they come from only a few generous sources. We need regular income on an ongoing basis so that we can provide our community and the general public with quality service and programming. Voluntary services are important, but if we are to expect quality performance from our staff, we must pay them a decent, livable wage. If we demand excellence from our staff, we must be willing to pay for it. Oh, how I wish we could find the answer to the money dilemma!

And finally, I selfishly wish Merissa and Yvonne good health, happiness, success, and an open mind and strong body so that they can continue to make IFGE grow.

Maybe I am a dreamer, but reality frequently results out of dreams. IFGE was conceived and created out of Merissa's dream. Now it is our turn to make it grow. We can do it!

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak my mind!

A CALL TO HONESTY

by Kyelle Blake

(Anyone wishing to contact Kyelle Blake can do so by writing her c/o IFGE, P O Box 367, Wayland MA 01778.)

My history over the past dozen years has included much more time journeying to the inner world of psyche than to the outer world of shopping malls, fashion stores, hair stylists and other places of delight for many TVs. The assumption has been that crossdressing is an outer behavior attached by strong lines to an inner anchor. My probing below the surface has yielded some surprises as to where the anchor lies. One of the biggest surprises has been learning that crossdressing is attached to several inner anchors, each one resting at a different place on my psychic seabed. In probing the inner landscape, no effort has been made to answer the much speculated question, Why crossdress? Instead, the assumption has been that crossdressing serves some inner need. My journey has been to explore the nature of those needs.

For a long time I thought that my crossdressing was connected to my inner gender arrangement or disarrangement. My life's history offers many signs that I am an adult male walking around with some unresolved gender issues. I have memories from as early as preschool years of identifying with the feminine rôles in plays, literature, movies and television shows. These memories precede childhood exploration of crossdressing by a number of years. There was confusion as to what was what and who was who in my relationships with girls. I was attracted to girls and always enjoyed women, but in childhood, the attraction to girls was always entwined with a frightening and unexplainable desire to be one of them. My dream-life is also a source of signals. Throughout my life I have regularly remembered dreams in which my dream-self (the first person in the dream) was my femme-self. Little research has been done in the area of dreams as they relate to gender identity, but I believe that few straight heterosexual males experience themselves as female on a regular basis in their dreams. In any event, enough signs are present in my life to conclude that my gender identity cannot be defined in 100% masculine terms. Those signs are present without the crossdressing.

In all the exploration of gender issues that I have undertaken, I can't get around the simple fact that in all my rôles—spouse, parent, lover, family member, friend, at work, at play—I am perfectly content and happy being my male-self. Even in the lesser day-to-day rôles being a social partner going out to eat, running errands, going shopping, cooking a meal or typing a paper like this one —being a guy poses no problem for me, and it is what I want for myself if I should take time to think about the question. Although much womanliness is in me, I have little desire to be a woman, and crossdressing often seems to have little to do with expressing my inner womanliness. In fact, of all the ways available to express the inner feminine side—trying to be a good listener, paying attention to relationships, caring and nurturing —crossdressing is the least effective means for embodying my femininity.

Crossdressing is not now nor has it ever been for me simply a matter of occasionally expressing the complexities of my inner gender arrangements. The outer behavior of crossdressing is anchored elsewhere on the psychic seabottom. A large portion of my inner seafloor is covered by my addictive/compulsive complex. The anchor attaching the outer behavior of crossdressing in my life is much more thoroughly embedded in the addictive/compulsive complex than it is embedded in the gender complex. Crossdressing for me is more addictive behavior than it is an expression of my gender identity.

What I am writing here has taken a long, long time. There has been much denial. Denial is always a part of addictive behavior. I have had little desire to admit to myself or to anyone else that I am addicted to something —and, of all things, women's clothing. For some reason, it seemed much more acceptable to believe that crossdressing was a form of outer gender expression taking care of some inner gender need. Yet, recognizing and accepting the addictive nature of my crossdressing has been the needed step to finding some peace and taking charge of my life instead of letting my addiction be in control of me.

By way of example, I will try to sketch out the addictiveness as it holds hands with my crossdressing. Let us say that next week I am planning to spend a day in Boston as Kyelle. (It wouldn't be the first time.) Crossdressing for the occasion could be a matter of simple gender expression - I've elected to spend a day letting my feminine side hang out. All reason and logic demand that if my dressing for this trip were simply a matter of gender expression, then I would be able to plan this trip as Kyelle with as little fuss and emotion about my clothes as I would have if I were planning to go in my male garb. I have had enough experience being out and about as Kyelle so that the crossdressing for this trip should not be any big deal for me by now. The dressing for this trip, however, would become a big deal for me because the dressing would let loose all sorts of addictive/compulsive stuff within me.

At the heart of the addictive behavior would be my becoming all wrapped up emotionally in the dressing.

Crossdressing is my drug of choice, and under its influence I lose my ability to see and think and feel straight. My perfectionism would emerge as I invest too much energy, physical and emotional, in preparing my clothes and gear. I might go out and purchase some new piece of jewelry and not be able to bring myself to tell my wife about it. This new addition to my wardrobe would be another one of those little surprises for her to learn about accidently at some later date. Something about the crossdressing would present itself at some point as a reason to feel extremely guilty and to entertain me with a marvelous fit of depression. Once dressed and going on the appointed day, I would be like the alcoholic who says he can enter a bar, have only two drinks, and go home sober. Once into the behavior, pulling out would be difficult. I would probably stay up until 4 or 5am only to fall in bed in sheer exhaustion.

The very real experiences related to crossdressing above have nothing to do with expressing my femininity. They have everything to do with addictive behavior. Many signs of the addictiveness attached to crossdressing make themselves evident in our community as well as in an individual's actions. Below, I'll list several clinically identifiable symptoms of addictiveness as they frequently appear among us.

It gets worse as you get older. One doesn't have to travel far in TV circles before hearing how the urge to dress increases in intensity and duration with the passage of time. Any physician possessing a working familiarity with addictiveness knows that untreated addictions become more intense with the passage of time. Such is the nature of the beast. It is in an addiction's make-up to have an ever–increasing appetite. The high which an addiction strives to obtain becomes ever harder to obtain. Consequently, more and more of the abused substance or activity is required to reach the desired high. The oft-cited experience of many TVs that the urge becomes stronger as we get older is but one classic sign of the addictive side of crossdressing.

Acquisition and Collection. An inability to enter a store without purchasing a pair of pantyhose, owning enough lingerie to fill six steamer trunks and still not having enough, and the collection of 350 tubes of lipstick in every shade imaginable all have nothing to do with being a woman, or with being a man expressing his feminine side. The many stories of acquisition and collection heard in the TV/TS community are purely the recital of addictive behavior.

Half-truths, lies and coverups. Hanging around a few spouses of TVs for a few seconds, one is bound to hear a story or two of the spouses' most recent surprises. (I mentioned one such surprise in the Boston scenario above.) The tendency to not let our wives know everything runs rampant among us. When a spouse encounters another surprise, she feels betrayed, frustrated and angry. She feels no different from the wife of a compulsive gambler who has sworn to her that he won't gamble again. She feels betrayed, frustrated and angry upon discovering that her husband has just lost another $1000 at the race track. The tendency to engage in half-truths is another piece in the dynamics of addiction as the addiction impacts on relationships.

The urge to purge. People can become addicted to almost anything—food, sex, gambling, religion, a therapist, a spouse, alcohol, the lottery—you name it. (For those who wish to press that addictiveness and crossdressing simply can't belong together, the question must be answered, "Why is crossdressing so special that it is to be held exempt from the list of all things to which a person can become addicted?") No matter what the addiction, addicts of all types often reach the point where, trying to control the addiction, they swear off, or purge. Purging is a widely recognized classic symptom of addiction.

Recognizing and accepting the addictive nature of crossdressing has been the needed step to finding some peace

Depression and guilt. Depression and guilt run rampant in the TV/TS community. We like to blame God, society and others for these feelings, but there is another story behind our depression and guilt. Depression and guilt are also systematically related to the addictive-compulsive-obsessive complex. For an in-depth analysis of this subject, see the treatment of depression and guilt in Frank Minirth, et al., *The Workaholic and his Family* (Baker Book House, 1981).

Ego-centricity. I have worked with people suffering with a variety of addictions. Every time I encounter addiction, I also encounter ego-centricity. For some reason, heavy-duty doses of self-centeredness go hand in hand with addictiveness. I have no desire to embarrass anyone here, including myself, by giving a specific example. Suffice it to say that the mere perusal of a copy or two of *Tapestry* will uncover at least one article or letter that screams with ME, ME, ME! Ego-centricity is another facet of the addictive complex. For a masterful study of ego-centricity from the Jungian perspective, see *The Kingdom Within* by John A. Sanford (Harper & Row, 1970).

Denial. One does not have to be an overly learned student of psychology to know that denial is the coin's flipside when dealing with addictions. There is a difference between knowledge and wisdom, and the difference is overcome by the ability to recognize one's own denials. TVs are frequently heard using the word "compulsion" in reference to their dressing urge. Unfortunately, the word is often used without any recognition or appreciation of its psychological implications. There is also denial in the word's use. It appears that the word "compulsion" feels safer than the word "addiction," for we so often use the former where we should use the latter. Somehow, all is OK if some things in my gender complex are so arranged that I am compelled or driven to crossdress. Greater use of the word "addiction" would bring into sharper focus our inner workings and help us recognize that our addictiveness has nothing to do with the inner woman, but has much to do with the playing out of our addictive-obsessive-compulsive tendencies.

Giving the addictiveness in crossdressing more recognition has far-reaching ramifications for the TV/TS community. In closing, I'll offer some reflections on a few of the consequences.

TV/TS publications call attention to efforts to remove crossdressing from the *DSM-III-R* Manual of the American Psychiatric Association. Offense is sometimes taken by our community members that the manual depicts crossdressing as a disorder. As a child, my religious upbringing taught me that taking offense serves neither God, self nor others. As an adult, my psychological training has taught me to recognize taking offense as a psychotic behavior. Let us not be psycho about what the *Manual* says about us. If, indeed, crossdressing, along with sex, food, gambling, alcohol, work, religion and many other things can become an object of addiction, then this condition needs professional acknowledgement.

Let us be honest with ourselves and the professionals. This means fleshing out our own denials. Instead of working as poor, offended victims of society, let us work with the professionals and the world at large as intelligent human beings who recognize that crossdressing is, in and of itself, a morally benign human behavior. But, when something unhealthy, such as addictiveness becomes attached to this otherwise benign behavior, then our community needs to grant to the professional community the freedom to do their work. We need not take offense at what someone else is doing in behalf of health and wholeness.

Yes, the *DSM-III-R* could be rewritten, but in such a way that the benign nature of crossdressing be affirmed while recognizing crossdressing's potential as an object of addiction. For the past year or so, I have been following as much as possible the discussion about the *DSM-III-R* and crossdressing as it appears in print in TV/TS publications. I have yet to read any acknowledgement that addictiveness bears upon the subject. This is a significant omission in our community's discussion. Could the omission possibly be a manifestation of our collective denial?

My argument here has implications for the work of

ONLY YOU CAN DECIDE IF YOUR CROSSDRESSING IS COMPULSIVE BEHAVIOR. IF YOU ANSWER YES TO FOUR OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, YOU SHOULD TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT WHAT YOU ARE DOING.

1. Have you ever decided to stop crossdressing but found you had to go back to it after awhile?
2. Do you wish people would mind their own business about your crossdressing, stop telling you what to do?
3. Have you ever changed your crossdressing behavior so that it would stay under control?
4. Have you ever had to do some crossdressing activity first thing in the morning during the last year?
5. Do you envy people who can crossdress without getting into trouble?
6. Have you had problems connected with crossdressing during the past year?
7. Has your crossdressing caused trouble at home?
8. Do you ever have to do something extra with your crossdressing at a party because what you ordinarily do is not enough?
9. Do you tell yourself you can stop crossdressing any time you want to, even though you keep crossdressing when you don't mean to?
10. Have you missed days of work or school because of crossdressing?
11. Do you lose your memory of crossdressing experiences?
12. Have you ever felt that your life would be better if you did not crossdress?

TV/TS clubs and organizations. Our groups offer many programs. Just check the listings in this issue of *Tapestry*. For a TV struggling with the addictiveness of crossdressing, the programs only offer more opportunity to feed the addiction. For myself, this is a central reason why I am less and less drawn to the activities of the community. My addictive nature is creative and inventive enough to produce all sorts of ways to feed itself without any outside help! The activities would certainly be more attractive to me if I could find among them a 12 step program to help with the addictiveness in my crossdressing. It troubles me that such help is not available within our community.

I also hold little appreciation for boisterous critics who won't dirty their hands to offer help. So let me say here, should other readers of *Tapestry* be interested in what I am saying and want to form a 12 step group in the Boston area, I will be available to give some leadership and assistance in the fall of '92.

In closing, a few disclaimers. This article is not written by someone with a mission to either rid the world of crossdressing or to claim a cure for crossdressing. There is no cure. This article is written with the recognition that addiction is unhealthy for one's self and for one's relationships. Persons with addictions can find health for the help is available and they do not have to live with the addiction taking control of their lives. This article is not written with the idea that crossdressing is an addiction, but from the perspective that addictive behavior can become attached to crossdressing. This article is not written with the understanding that addictiveness is the only inner complex to which the outer behavior of crossdressing might be attached.

For some people, crossdressing, or some aspect of crossdressing, is a part of their sexual tape. For such individuals there is no cause for guilt because of what is found in their sexual script. For persons who need crossdressing as a sexual turn-on, a few problems may be encountered in finding a sexual partner. But, the problem is not an impossibility, and can be overcome with love, understanding and listening on both sides.

For some individuals, the crossdressing is firmly attached to an anchor permanently embedded in the gender complex located on the floor of the inner landscape. For these persons, crossdressing serves as a needed outer behavior that reflects a genuine inner reality. For myself, crossdressing is in part (a small part) gender expression. What has long stood in the way of my fully exploring crossdressing as a form of gender expression has been the addictiveness also attached to the behavior.

Fully honoring crossdressing as sexual script or gender expression requires honesty abut how addictiveness also may be a part of the picture. The lack of honesty and openness about the addictiveness that is often on the scene in the company of crossdressing is where the TV/TS community magnificently fails itself, its members and those who turn to us for health, help and wholeness. I hope to see a change someday in that area and submit this article to that end.

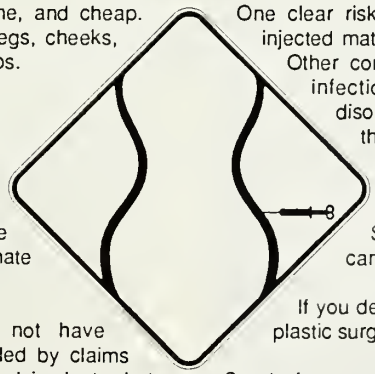
DANGEROUS CURVES AHEAD.

Curves! Beautiful, sexy, feminine, and cheap. Breasts, hips, thighs, buttocks, legs, cheeks, chins, and even full, voluptuous lips.

Sounds too good to be true?

Yes, it is.

By now, you may have realized that we are talking about silicone injections (the kind that no legitimate physician would ever administer).



Freely injected silicone does not have USFDA approval. Don't be fooled by claims such as "Just as good as surgical implants, but without the price." The truth of the matter is that non-medical, non-sterile grade silicone is often used, and is frequently adulturated with other non-medical grade substances. It is injected by people not trained in medical techniques or human anatomy, who frequently reuse needles.

One clear risk is migration or slippage of the injected material into other parts of the body. Other complications include inflammation, infection, and connective tissue disorders, as well as extrusion from the body. AIDS (from contaminated syringes) and other dangers may not become apparent for some years.

Sometimes the price of beauty can be too high.

If you desire surgical augmentation, see a plastic surgeon.

Send for our free pamphlet, "Dangerous Curves Ahead: Why Silicone Injections Can Be Hazardous to Your Health."

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Decatur, GA 30033-0724

NOW IS THE TIME OF THE DAUGHTER

by Nancy Ledins

(Luncheon address delivered at the IFGE Coming Together-Working TogetherConvention in Houston, Texas, April 1992.Dr. Ledins is a scholar (PhDs in Philosophy, Psychology, Theology, and Scripture), an educator and researcher. She is currently the president of a post–secondary education company, and chairman of the International Board of Electrologist Cerification. Dr. Ledins made international headlines in the mid–seventies when she gave up her career as a Catholic priest to undergo sexual reassignment surgery.)

A Native American, Brooke Medicine Eagle, wrote the following:

> When the Creator created the world, the only law given was that we should be in good relationships with others and with ourselves. This law has been given especially to the female, to her who holds creation in her hands . . . for to be truly human, the masculine and feminine must be balanced within. For now is the time of the daughter.

It is time that the feminine energy within each of us be released and channeled and balanced. Fourteen years ago, at a gathering in Provincetown, I quoted King Arthur who said: " . . . delight in innocent pleasures." And, at the first New Woman's Conference, held less than a year ago, I challenged each of the participants there as I challenge you now, to " . . . ride the wind as far as you can go." It is time, as an essay in a recent book, *BODYGUARDS*, so eloquently says, " . . . to lay the groundwork for the next transformation."

"When the Creator created the world, the only law given was that we should be in good relationships with others and with ourselves."

And that transformation is, I submit, that we each take a moment now to reflect on our responsibility -- in pursuing masculinity and femininity -- to realize that we each must do what we can to "gentle the world." This is a noble task; this is a noble challenge; this is a task that goes far beyond any SCUD or Patriot missile barrage; far beyond any Medellin drug cartel campaign; far beyond any political convention. Our challenge -- especially because each of us has chosen (or been driven) to seek our counterpart-self in order to BALANCE ourself -- that challenge goes far beyond that suitcase of clothes, that makeup kit, that accessories' box. Or, in the case of some, that surgical appointment with destiny. Each of us, my dear ladies and gentlemen, has a challenge to gentle the world by what we do. In short, to gentle the earth, our Mother Earth. And, as Winston Abbott writes so poignantly, "It is getting late, so very late, and we have yet to listen to the sound of the cricket."

Your task, to move back to an old *Mission Impossible* theme, should you choose to accept it, is to make your genderal searchings positive and to ride the winds of that search (wherever it may lead you) far beyond the closet or motel room, get-together, or even a convention of like-minded people, to realize that your world must become larger than your clothes or your surgery or your compact case or dilator. Each of us has a task as a human being: to seek to balance our Mother Earth. Each of us -- even though our "pleasure be gentle" as Arthur says, still has the responsibility to fulfill our rôle as a complete human being. And, contrary to the *Mission Impossible* theme, if we do not choose to accept this challenge, the tape will not just burn up. Mother Earth and all of us will be the losers. It is getting late . . . so very late.

I almost hesitate to use the word but I shall: we each have the task to perform a "ministry." That ministry is to gentle people. This feminine energy is desperately needed. So desperately needed. YOU can assist in that responsibility. Do not shirk from it. "To be whole," writes the author of *Eagles Quest*, "a person must be balanced between his male-like and female-like energies." And that, I submit, is why it is always in vogue to challenge ourselves -- especially ourselves who choose to consort with our opposite energies so dramatically—- to demand that the price of that consorting is to let that priceless merging within our own being express itself rightly for the balancing of our Mother Earth. For now, indeed, it is the time of the daughter.

Some months ago—in an almost imperious and arrogant way—I attended a conference for post-surgical "new women." In fact, as the height of my arrogance, I had prepared, upon invitation, a keynote speech. The title of my talk was, "When Does the New Woman Become the Old Lady?" In my own inability to see the

balancing and the time of the daughter, I had never seen that my changing, my transition, was a voyage toward this feminine balancing. At any rate, much to my delightful surprise, the conference provided a gentle setting in which to see something very necessary: the need to express ourselves in a rite of passage. Each of us needs to see that we are all Georgy Girls: we must all shed those dowdy feathers and fly.

Each time we come together, we are trying to affirm —even though we do not especially want to admit it— that we are working through a marvelous search for meaning, peacefulness, joy, happiness, ecstacy, harmony. All of this goes far beyond dressing and primping and swishing and cavorting (All of which are important!)—for now is the time of the daughter. Now is the time that we need to realize that corralling and unleashing these feminine energies is not only necessary, but is sustenance for our Mother Earth. Again, it is beyond cosmetics and clothes, beyond surgery and support hose. I am reminded of the two little boys who stood in a famous art museum before a nude statue of a man and a woman. "Which one is the girl?" asked one of the lads. "How should I know," replied his companion, "they don't have no clothes on."

The little boys were only saying what so many adults have already confused: that clothes make the person (not true) and that sex and gender are terribly confused (true). I have tried, in these few minutes, to speak good things with good purpose—to challenge you right in the midst of your divine bliss of attending this conference and enjoying this lunch, and reveling in your discoveries. My challenge is meant to take you one more step toward your marvelous purpose in a focused way to gentle our Mother Earth. In the midst of all this activity, we have to learn to sit still and let the spirits of wisdom land. Do not shirk the greater responsibility you have, for now is the time of the daughter.

My wish for you is simple: May your moccasins make happy tracks in many snows, and may the rainbow always touch your shoulder. Our birthright is to be male and female -- and our challenge is to breathe this balancing into our Mother Earth and its inhabitants. I plead with you to listen to the song of the cricket, for now is your time and mine. It is time for the daughter. And you, daughter, have the privilege of responding.

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A WIFE'S PERSPECTIVE
(An Open Letter To The Gender Community)

by Julie Freeman

(Edited from The Femme Mirror, *Winter, 1992, published by Tri-Ess, P O Box 194, Tulare CA 93275.)*

I have been a member of the gender community for almost five years. Before that, I had little, if any knowledge of transvestism or transsexualism. My husband, like so many, found as he was approaching his mid-40's that he could no longer keep his crossdressing a secret from me. So one day several years ago he took me aside and explained his "secret" and why he had to come forward.

I was startled, bewildered, and confused, as any wife might be, learning about this behavior for the first time. We talked a lot, and as time went on, I became accepting. I was very concerned in the beginning that our children might react badly, and I definitely did not want our employers, neighbors, or relatives to know. He agreed; being just as concerned as I was with security and privacy.

We did, however, think it best for our children to know. Since they were both young adults at the time, it was not hard for us to agree. We told them and they were somewhat accepting. They prefer NOT to see their father when he is cross-dressed, although they respect his right to do so.

We became very active in local support groups, and have met many wonderful people: crossdressers, their significant others, helping professionals, etc. I thought that perhaps crossdressing could become a very positive force in our lives, if it were kept in proper perspective.

BUT, over time, I noticed my husband was NOT happy in just crossdressing on occasion and going to various events: parties, educational seminars, holidays, etc. He wanted more—outreach became very important. That was not really an issue with me as I certainly agreed with the need to educate society.

BUT, he also wanted electrolysis, hormones, and possibly implants, etc. Even the dreaded phrase "sexual reassignment surgery" reared its ugly head in our home. I was getting nervous and even scared as he talked more and more about wanting to become a woman.

Behind my back, so to speak, he started electrolysis. I was shocked, but he said he wouldn't do anything else without my knowledge and permission. But I had not expected him to start electrolysis without permission, so I was and still am to a degree not totally secure with this promise.

Things went along sort of status quo. A lot of talk about becoming a woman, but no further action. About this time in our lives we started to see a lot of sex changes. Individuals recently members of our support group were suddenly off to Colorado or to Belgium. Wives were coming to my significant others' support group crying that their husbands were now taking hormones, etc.

We saw some divorces and many broken relationships. We were beginning to see a real division in the TV/TS community. Those who considered themselves open-minded were very accepting of this trend towards sexual reassignment surgery, or at least very positive and accepting of those individuals who made those decisions, regardless of the families left behind. We saw others who were becoming disturbed and alarmed at this trend.

I was in limbo! I had tried so hard to be open-minded in the beginning. I have always considered myself tolerant, and I bent over backwards to treat all members in our support group with consideration and dignity. But, I was seeing some rapid deterioration in the family support system, and I was faced with my open prospect of deterioration at home.

I was in limbo! I had tried so hard to be open-minded in the beginning

My husband, fortunately, was NOT pleased with what he was seeing. Too many divorces, too many broken homes! So, he has backed off considerably. He no longer talks of sexual reassignment surgery, but does speak wistfully of hormones, implants, etc. But, with the recent scientific findings of problems with implants and hormones, he is in no real hurry to venture down the obstacle-ridden path.

So why am I writing this? I am writing because I do not know what the future holds for us. I do not know when or if my husband will decide that more is better. I need answers. Does someone like my husband, who has lived a heterosexual lifestyle with wife, family, job, for almost thirty years need a sex change to make him happy? Or is he just pursuing a fantasy, not being realistic? I don't know. But I do know that for us to maintain the strong marital relationship we have today, sexual reassignment surgery can have no place.

I am speaking out because I believe there are many of us —wives who love our husbands dearly, and who are accepting of their crossdressing—but do not want to see our husbands pursue a direction in their lives which may lead to heartache and sadness for us all.

WHO SPEAKS GENDERLINGO?

by Billie Jean Jones

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(An earlier version of this opinion piece was printed in the Dec./Jan., 1992 issue of **TV Guise** *(now renamed* **GenderFlex***), 3430 Balmoral Drive #10, Sacramento CA 95821. Reader comments and contributions are welcomed; sample and past issues available for $2.00 each, first-class postage paid, USA only.)*

Have ya noticed all the talk about social stereotypes of people who cross-dress? Stuff like: a guy inna dress is a fag; a prostitute; a pervert. That people do it as a sexual fetish; a parody of women. That butch looking women are dykes. How 'bout this: Gay men do it to sexually attract men(!?). Are these the mainstream stereotypes?

What about David Bowie, Boy George, Prince, Michael Jackson, k. d. lang and Madonna? Aren't these people changing the mainstream stereotypes of gender?

And, what about the term "cross-dresser"? Doesn't that imply a person who wears clothing intended for the opposite gender? So why do people who cross-dress and wear makeup, padding and wigs call themselves cross-dressers when they are clearly impersonating/emulating/mimicking their "opposite" gender (based on their interpretation of what their opposite gender looks like)?

According to many, it is because the term transvestite carries a negative connotation. So they want a term that is "unloaded," in other words, a positive connotation is desired. So they seem to be in a constant search for the one, universal, liberating term. However, the culture-at-large is familiar with transvestite and transsexual, so when a new term begins to be circulated, the culture-at-large is, in effect, excluded. Additionally, regardless of the efforts of a few people, the culture-at-large recognizes the terms "gender-benders" and "gender-blending"; two terms the so-called "gender community" seems to ignore as overall, general terms.

When David Bowie initiated androgyny within rock 'n' roll concerts (or carried forth Little Richard's earlier contribution to gender rôle presentation in rock), a whole subset of rock developed called "Glam-rock." Entire bands performed in makeup and clothing intended for women. Recent bands such as Guns 'N' Roses often present a cross-dressed aspect on stage. Boy George performs "in face." Prince appears cross-dressed (without padding) in concert and on album covers. Michael Jackson has had his face carved and tattooed to look like a woman. k. d. lang dresses in a decidedly masculine style.

These people sell millions of recordings worldwide, and generate billions of dollars in sales. Madonna likewise generates reams of publicity involving gender perception, as well as racking up astounding sales. All of these performers have advanced the perception of gender far beyond anything the "TS/TV Community" has done.

Why aren't their voices included in "our community's" dialogue? Why aren't their contributions honored? Why do we keep hearing the same stuff about "the gender minority" being unfairly stigmatized by "society"? Could it be that the voices being published within the so-called "gender community" do not reflect much of the gender community at all?

What and who constitutes the "gender community"? Is Virginia Prince correct when she states that is a dumb term because everyone has a gender? Perhaps. But I believe the more important issue is who speaks for the so-called gender community.

If the number of people who have a gender conflict, or issue, is indeed, three to five percent (let's just say four percent) of the general population, that means ten million people in the USA. Obviously that number is not reflected by membership in social-contact clubs. Even if the percentage was applied to males only, that would imply at least four million males; let's say half that for females, giving us six million (2.4 percent of assumed US population of two-hundred fifty million). The occurrence of transsexualism in males is reported as one in twenty thousand (fifty thousand persons in the US); in females as one in fifty thousand (thirty thousand persons in the US). So, of the assumed six million people with a gender conflict/issue, eighty thousand (1.3%) are at the "gender dysphoric" level (find it hard to bear living in the gender rôle congruent with their biological sex classification).

ETVC, the largest social-contact club in Northern California, had four hundred fifty memberships last year drawing on a population base of four-and-a-half million. Using ETVC membership as a reflection of "out" persons, the amazing math department reports that less than one-half of one percent of persons with a potential gender conflict/issue in ETVC's population base are members of ETVC. Review of ETVC's newsletter suggests less than ten people are regularly published in their newsletter. So, approximately two percent of membership has a voice, which equates to less than one one-hundredth of one percent of the population assumed to have a gender conflict/issue(<0.0001).

Tapestry, the most widely circulated publication in the US sells less than two thousand copies by individual subscription, and prints ten thousand copies of each issue. Looking at a few issues of *Tapestry*, one can find, at best, twenty regularly published voices, which equates to one percent of subscribers, two-tenths of one percent of copies printed, three ten-thousandths of one percent of persons assumed to have a gender conflict/issue in the USA (0.000003).

While I admire the inclusion of many voices in *Tapestry*, the steady tone of the magazine resonates with "respectable" transsexuals and transgenderists, an obvious minority within the spectrum.

Using ETVC's percentage of "out" membership (0.004) times six million, equates to twenty-four thousand "out" people in the US. Are there even twenty-four thousand different individuals collectively in social-contact/educational gender organizations? Doubtful, but even if there were, that would only represent a few of the persons who are assumed to have a gender conflict/issue.

Who speaks for this community? A minuscule percentage who influence a few people.

And what of this influence? It seems to follow that the voices of the minuscule percentage may well cause adoption of their message by the few, who will in turn perpetuate these messages while ignoring the obvious global messages being sent out by pop musicians and received by a much larger segment of the general population, including the majority of people with a gender conflict/issue.

The result of this will self-perpetuate the potential schism between the vocal minority of "out" gender conflicted/enhanced persons and the general population as defined by the self-proclaimed spokespersons of the "gender community."

Further, the voices of this minority faction are nearly uniform in representing emulation of some women (perhaps also based on interpretive stereotypes) as role models—in other words, males imitating the physical appearance of females who adopt feminine aspects based on mainstream cultural expectations; males who live as women; males who undergo sex reassignment surgery. They also tend to be sex-negative (sex-less).

Who speaks for the gender community?...Only a minority within a minority of a minority.

TV Epic, California's most widely circulated sex-contact magazine for TV/TS-interested persons contains over one-hundred-fifty personal ads from California alone, easily outdistancing the sixty-four social-contact ads from California in *Tapestry*. Can one assume that sex-positive "out" persons outnumber sex-negative "out" persons two-and-a-half to one? That would total sixty thousand people, one percent of persons assumed to have a gender issue/conflict. And, the sex-positive "out" people, a majority of "out" persons, generally don't have a voice except sex ads. Which means that their perspective is not represented in "our community."

Therefore, it is my further contention that the voices who speak "for the community" rather than for themselves, perpetuate misinformation and myth.

How? By making assumptions, accepting the assumptions as fact, and then arguing a position built on a house of cards. Some examples:

1. - "Ninety-eight percent of the gender minority are mentally healthy." No statistics to support. The facts seem to support an assumption that ninety-eight percent of the sex-negative people "out" have possibly learned to accept and deal with their gender conflict, but this only represents an extremely small percentage of persons with a gender conflict/issue. Additionally, many of these "out" persons have enlisted the help of a qualified therapist in order to accept themselves, and their personal stories often contain passages of extremely destructive behaviors prior to coming to grips with themselves. It would appear that the statement of 98% is based on the assumption that only 2% of people with a gender conflict/issue have been "sampled" to generate certain "opinions." These same practitioners of assumptive sophistry also seem to comprise the loudest voice saying that terms such as transvestite and transsexual carry a negative connotation.

2. - "Homosexuality among gender conflicted persons is less than in the general population." Again, no statistics to support. The empirical facts seem to support a higher incidence of bisexuality than within the general population (which is only beginning to examine its bisexual component); and, gay men who crossdress are generally excluded from the "gender community" (which is unfortunate in that gay men have been the male "leaders" in changing masculine gender perception for years, and, these CDs suffer discrimination within the gay community that is possibly more "oppressive" than from the general population, not to mention the discrimination by omission from the minority of the vocal "gender community" which then makes self-serving statements). While this may serve to "provide comfort" to spouses of "bigendered/transgendered" persons, it also perpetuates homophobia, and puts undue pressure on people to resist their bisexual capacity through homophobic stigma. It is my personal observation that many, many men-to-women transsexuals "switch" sexual orientation/attraction after surgery (from women to men), a clear indication of bisexuality and also an indication of homophobia influencing sexual expression (I couldn't fuck him when I was a man, but now that I'm a woman, it's okay). The fantasy fiction and personal ads within the "community" are filled with bisexual desires. Ours is a "sex-negative" culture: Why perpetuate that repressive aspect?

3. - "The *DSM-III-R* unfairly labels 'us' as perverts." This statement, and others like it, are utter hogwash. The manual does not label anyone as a pervert, nor, in fact, does it label anyone. It does list indicators of behavioral disorders to aid "helping professionals" to make a diagnosis of a person who has solicited help, and in certain court cases the *DSM* has been quoted by an "expert" to "make the case" (and has also been used conversely). That some minority vocal elements within the "out" minority continue to call for a unified "attack" could well be an indication of a disorder. If these same elements were really concerned about changing cultural information about gender expressions, they would stop excluding the majority of persons with a gender conflict/issue, and utilize the existing mainstream educational institutions such as television, radio, newspapers, movies, schools, shopping malls and other social/political organizations, rather than wasting energy on an obscure, esoteric manual that virtually nobody reads.

Who speaks for the "gender community"? A minority within a minority of a minority. Quite properly, then, "the minuscule gender minority." And who do they speak for? A minority of persons with a gender conflict/issue—a limited aspect of the "gender minority."

(That was the point—did ya get it?)

In the children's story of the blind men examining an elephant and describing what an elephant was, the examiners argued with each other over what an elephant was. Each had a different portion of elephant to examine. Rather than share information, they argued. Rather than examine different portions, they argued. The sighted readers of the story laugh because they have seen an elephant, they know each blind man has only a single aspect and their singular arguments are due to their limited perspectives. The story is not factual and did not survive because it is a good children's story. It survives because it is a good adult lesson.

How big is the gender elephant? Say six billion people. How many blind persons will argue to death just what the gender elephant is? How many will laugh? Cry? How many will turn away?

These are some of the thoughts I had today.

CHEEKBONES FROM HELL, or INJECTABLE SILICONE: BAD NEWS

by Dallas Denny

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In the second issue of *Chrysalis Quarterly*, published by AEGIS, we ran an ad called "Dangerous Curves Ahead," warning of the hazards of injectable silicone. You may have seen the ad, for it has appeared on the cover of Billie Jean Jones's *TVGuise*, on the back cover of *Renaissance News*, and in various other publications of the transgender community.

We chose injectable silicone as the basis for the first of our series of public service ads because many people in the community seem unaware that injecting silicone into the human body is both dangerous and illegal. Unlike breast implants, where the silicone is placed in a plastic bag which is then surgically implanted, a large-bore needle is used to inject the silicone directly into cheekbones, lips, chins, foreheads, thighs, breasts, hips, hands, and other parts of the body. Unfortunately, this is often done not under sterile conditions in a doctor's office by a cosmetic surgeon, but by a lay "practitioner" in a motel room, or in a van. Often non-sterile, industrial-grade silicone is used, rather than medical-grade, and it may be adulterated with substances like oil or paraffin, which can cause serious medical complications. The individual injecting the silicone typically has no training in medical technique or aesthetics, and has little regard for the well-being of the "patient," who has not been warned of the dangers of the procedure, and is not likely to be looked after properly in the case of a catastrophic reaction.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has maintained since 1965 that only those physicians who it has authorized to experiment with silicone are allowed to procure or use the substance—and there are currently no physicians authorized to do so. According to an article in the *New York Times* earlier this year, a survey of 2000 cosmetic and plastic surgeons by the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery found that silicone injection is the ninth most popular procedure in cosmetic surgery; there were nearly 60,000 injections reported in the USA in 1990. Most were done to women. Last June, David Kessler, FDA Commissioner, warned physicians that they must stop silicone injections.

Most plastic surgeons and dermatologists limit their injections of silicone to small drops to fill in facial wrinkles, or "pump up" part of the face. Although those who used only small amounts of silicone reported few complications, many stopped upon Kessler's warning, according to the *New York Times* article. Other physicians, however, claim that the FDA has no jurisdiction, and continue the practice. Some inject massive amounts of the substance into breasts, thighs, and hips.

If the FDA Commissioner contends that injection of medical grade silicone by physicians is illegal, you can imagine what he would have to say about the use of industrial-quality silicone by non-physicians—a practice which is common among transgendered persons. When we wrote Dr. Kessler about the "black market" in injectable silicones, we received a reply from Sterling D. Gary of the FDA's Division of Compliance Operations, assuring us that the FDA shared our concerns about "the practice of injecting non-sterile, non-medical grade liquid silicone into the body," and indicating that the FDA was willing to "take appropriate action" against those who did so.

The problem, of course, is how to start. It's one thing for the FDA to clamp down on a physician who has a license which can be revoked and works out of a fixed location, but quite another to locate and prosecute an unscrupulous practitioner who flies around the country with a bag of needles and a tube of silicone purchased in an auto parts or hardware store. I doubt that the FDA has the resources to mount an effort to stop the dangerous and illegal practice of injecting silicone. The effort must instead come from within the transgender and gay communities, and the first step is to make the problem known through articles like this one, and through advertisements like our "Dangerous Curves Ahead."

I frequently hear transgendered people say, "I have silicone in my face, and I've never had any problems." To them, I say, "You're lucky." The problems with injected silicone are legion, and directly proportional to the amount injected. Thus, a small amount in the face is less likely to cause complications than large amounts in the torso, but any injection is potentially lethal.

What are the problems with silicone injections? The most immediate danger is respiratory distress which may lead to death. I'm looking right now at a paper called "Acute and Latent Pneumonitis after Subcutaneous Injections of Silicone in Transsexual Men" (Chastre, et al., 1986). The authors of this paper treated 13 FTM transsexual people who were hospitalized for respiratory symptoms resulting from "... illicit subcutaneous injections of silicone." Seven of the patients had begun having problems breathing immediately following injections, and five at varying periods after injections. The thirteenth became ill following a brawl in which the

silicone became dislodged. The authors concluded that silicone injection carried " . . . a serious respiratory risk since it can induce acute pneumonitis and can result in acute respiratory failure"; that this can be induced ...by local trauma to tissues containing silicone, even if injections were performed several years before the traumatic episode"; and that " . . . latent silicone pneumonitis may be observed in patients who develop local inflammatory phenomena at the sites of previous injections." Other papers (Couland, et al., 1973; Ellenborgen & Rubin, 1975; McCurdy & Solomons, 1977; Solomons & Jones, 1975) have reported the deaths of individuals due to respiratory distress following silicone injections.

Another problem with injected silicone is that it moves around in the body, especially when injected in quantity (Chaplin, 1969; Parsons & Thering, 1977). In a postmortem, Ellenborgen & Rubin (1975) found silicone in all organs and in massive quantities in the lungs. Those of you who saw Dr. Stanley Biber's slide show at the 1992 IFGE Coming Together Convention in Denver will remember the slide of a young woman whose face looked like it had melted and run. She had lumps and bumps in her face, and looked about 20 years older than she was. She had come to him after having had facial silicone injections.

Silicone is especially dangerous when introduced into the breast. The paper by Parsons & Thering (1977) begins, "All plastic surgeons are aware by now that the injection of liquid silicone for breast augmentation leads to difficult, even disastrous complications." Theirs and other articles provide graphic evidence of what silicone can do to the chest. Despite patients' claims of being pleased with initial results, the breasts typically become hard and lumpy, may develop infections, form cysts or open sores, become hyperpigmented, and may even develop gangrene (Kopf, et al., 1976). When injected in large amounts, silicone is very difficult to remove (Parsons & Thering, 1977), and is almost certain to disfigure the breasts. In fact, it is often necessary to do a mastectomy (Chaplin, 1969), and even if an attempt is made to salvage the breast, the cosmetic result is not likely to be satisfactory either to the patient or to the surgeon (Parsons & Thering, 1977). Parsons & Thering point out that the breast is an organ with a high susceptibility to cancer, and that injected silicone renders mammograms useless. They speculate that silicone may lead to increased risk of cancer, and cite several authors who found cancer in patients with silicone-injected breasts.

There are other complications of silicone (for instance, there was one report of blindness), but I have not set out to do an exhaustive study of the effects of injected silicone. I wanted only to cite enough evidence to convince skeptics that injected silicone is, indeed, dangerous, and can be disfiguring and sometimes lethal, even when done by cosmetic surgeons. Now I want to move things closer to home, talking about the problem as it exists in reality in the transgender community.

Why would anyone agree to let themselves be pumped with silicone in some back room by an unskilled and unlicensed person?

Why, indeed! The answer is: instant curves. Silicone is seen as a quick "fix" by many transgendered men and women. It's less expensive than plastic surgery (on the front end, that is), requires no letters of authorization from psychologists or psychiatrists, and gives instant gratification.

The short-term effect of injected silicone is enhanced body contours. Cheekbones can be made more prominent, lips more pouty, clefts in chins removed, breasts enlarged. Hips and thighs can be sculpted to

(continued)

YOU CAN BE BEAUTIFUL, TOO!
VIGNETTES BASED ON ACTUAL PEOPLE WITH INJECTED SILICONE

RONA

Rona made the mistake of accompanying her friend Chris when Chris went for injections to her breasts. Stephanie, the woman with the silicone, told Rona, "You really should let me do something for that cleft in your chin, dear."

After that, Rona thought often about how it would be to get rid of her cleft chin. The next time Stephanie was in town, Rona not only had her chin done, but her lips, too, to get that "pouty" look. Unfortunately, although the chin was improved, the silicone in the lip shifted almost immediately. Rona caught Stephanie before she left town, asking her to do something. Stephanie studied Rona's face for a moment, and then said, "We can just give you a little here," and proceeded to pump silicone into the other side of Rona's mouth in order to provide symmetry. Then she repeated the job on Rona's lips.

Stephanie is out of town, long gone. Rona is now drinking through a straw, for she has lost most of the feeling in her lower lip, and there is so much silicone around her mouth that she cannot close it normally. She dribbles when she drinks from a glass, and she cannot chew without dropping food.

The first plastic surgeon she saw just shook his head and sent her elsewhere; the second said he thought he could remove most of the silicone, but was giving no guarantees; and he told her that there would be scars.

resemble those of born females. Male curves can be simulated, too instant pectoral, gluteal, or calf muscles.

And so, transgendered people pay $200, $300, even $500 for a few injections of impure silicone, administered, usually, by someone with no medical training, no knowledge of human anatomy, no knowledge of sterile techniques, no idea of what to do if a medical emergency develops, and who may well be reusing needles without sterilizing them—and this individual will more than likely have a very poor aesthetic sense. The result is Dangerous Curves—what I sometimes refer to as Cheekbones from Hell—body contours, especially lips and cheekbones, which just do not occur in nature. With repeated visits (and more money spent), the individual becomes a caricature, a cartoon, a person of exaggerated proportions. To the naïve eye, such people may seem more attractive because of those curves, but they lose the "realness" that is so important in order to live a viable life in the preferred gender. And the long term consequence is disfigurement.

Injecting silicone is big business. As far as we've been able to tell, there are three or four individuals who travel around the Southeast; word spreads that they are on their way, and when they arrive, a steady stream of "customers" file in and out of the hotel room—or, in one case in Atlanta, in and out of the back room of an upscale hairstyling parlor—dropping several hundred dollars each. We're talking big bucks here, for as many as 30 or 40 "customers" can be treated in one session.

We found out the hard way that it can be dangerous to interfere with such "enterprise," even to the extent of declaring our position with the "Dangerous Curves" ad. At one gender meeting, I and another AEGIS officer found ourselves confronted by a pistol-toting member of a local support group (she let us know it was in her purse), who was threatening us because she had heard about the ad. She was afraid that we would somehow interfere with her position as procurer for someone we will call "Rochelle," who was reportedly in town to capitalize on the conference. "Rochelle is licensed in six states to do this!" she shouted, waving her finger (and fortunately not her pistol) in our faces. Apparently our ad had been sufficient to alarm the silicone set. "Rochelle" stayed away from the conference, but it was a long time before I slept easily.

If the FDA has maintained for more than 25 years that injected silicone is dangerous, even when given by physicians, it stands to reason that it is unthinkable to seek it from a non-physician. Those who are desirous of enhanced body contours should seek a plastic or a cosmetic surgeon. It may cost a little more, but the results will be much less likely to compromise your health, and the aesthetic results will be much better and last much longer. In the long run, it will be much, much less expensive than "Dangerous Curves."

* * * *

YOU CAN BE BEAUTIFUL, TOO!
(continued)

NATALIE

Natalie fancied herself a Streisand look–alike, and to make herself Streisand–like, she sought the services of Rochelle, who pumped her cheeks full of silicone. "Isn't this too much?" Natalie asked.

"No, dear," said Rochelle. "The oil in the silicone will bleed away, and your cheeks will look just fine." But, the oil didn't "bleed away." Natalie was left with cheekbones that made her look ridiculous, and to make matters worse, her boyfriend popped her one and the silicone in the left cheek moved forward about an inch. She sought out Rochelle the next time she was in town and had even more silicone injected to make her face symmetrical.

Today, Natalie does a good impression of a chipmunk without even trying. She has talked to a plastic surgeon who gave her an estimate of $4000 for removing the silicone from her cheeks; he said he would implant prosthetic inserts for an additional $2000, if her face was not too damaged to tolerate them.

Natalie doesn't have that kind of money, but she does have $500, and the next time Rochelle is in town, she plans to have her breasts injected.

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THE CLOSETED CROSSDRESSER

by Ricky Hunt

(Edited from Cross-Talk, *P O Box 944, Woodland Hills CA 91365, Kymberleigh Richards, Editor and Publisher.)*

I'm a happy crossdresser, but I'm still confused. Maybe it's just me, but why are so many of my sisters so dissatisfied with their lives, and those of their sisters? Lately, it seems that all I see are articles about how we must fight for our rights, demand that our wives, children, pets, and the general public accept us uncritically, and grant our every wish.

OK, so I exaggerate, but it does seem a little much. Do we really need to be accepted uncritically by the public? Do we even want to? Isn't part of the diversion of donning a dress in knowing it is out of the ordinary, just a little bit naughty? I know I get a thrill out of feeling my breast forms bounce when I go down the stairs. And in my heart of hearts, stockings and skirts are a way of thumbing my nose at our crazy society. I don't need to have anyone watch me to enjoy being in a dress. In fact, I feel downright uncomfortable even with my wife, who is as understanding as any woman can be.

Why must there be so much emphasis on getting out and passing in public? If you have that particular passion, I would be the first one to give you all the help I could to make it happen. I'd even escort you, and back you up the first time. Where I get annoyed is when someone intimates that I'm shirking my duty to my sisters by just enjoying a bra and panties around the house with the curtains closed. I don't need a guilt trip because I'm not constantly screaming at the barricades of society and demanding my "rights."

I will grant that there are common elements in our situation and that of the civil rights movement in general. I would ask you to think back to the sixties, at least those of you who are old enough to remember them. The whole thing started with the radicals who were willing to make a fuss and get noticed. We could not have changed our society without them. The radicals and the folks on the fringe are a necessary part of change. But, it takes two other types to make those changes last. First come the quiet ones who work behind the scenes, writing the laws, organizing the small community groups, doing the detail work. Then come those that do their part by living their life in accord with the dictates of conscience. They are not flashy, and you probably don't recognize the few of them you know, but they are as utterly necessary as the emotional face on the television screen demanding whatever civil right this demonstration is for.

I refuse to accept the guilt being laid on me for not demanding my "right" to wear a dress in public. I'll cheer the radicals who are trying to broaden the borders, and I'm very thankful to those who do the scut work that allows me to go to a convention or read a publication about crossdressing, but I am most at home with those who sit in the background and attend the local chapter meetings, or just sit in pantyhose at home and write letters once in a while. There is room in society in general for all three types, and our little segment of society should be broad-minded enough to accept all our sisters and affirm their needs. Crossdressing should be enjoyable; we have enough societal guilt to cope with without another layer from our sisters.

I don't need to have anyone watch me to enjoy being in a dress. In fact, I feel downright uncomfortable

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SRS IN BAJA

by Alicia

(Edited and published with permission from Alicia's TV Girl Talk, *Vol. 4/#8, AML Ent., 5405 Arrow Highway, Suite 110, Montclair, CA 91763 ©1992.)*

A few months ago we received a booklet describing sexual reassignment surgery being performed in Baja California. Following are examples of statistics, techniques, and procedures in the booklet that made the place very attractive.

1) *97% of the patients had orgasms resulting from clitoral stimulation.*

2) *The entry into the vagina is pink like that of a genetic female.*

3) *Small intestine is used to construct the vagina, giving depth, as opposed to loss of vagina by contracture of skin grafts.*

4) *New vagina is self-lubricating and lubricants do not have to be used before intercourse.*

5) *Patient wears a stent for several weeks and then the vagina is kept open by dilation.*

6) *Vaginal dilation should be done as per discharge instructions and may continue for up to six months.*

7) *Sexual intercourse may be attempted after four weeks.*

My friend Barbara (not her real name) arrived at this clinic on Saturday, May 29, 1992. The first day was routine: check in, blood work, and enemas. She expected the operation to be performed the following morning, but they didn't take her to the operating room until 3:00pm, and didn't finish the operation until 11:00pm.

Barbara woke up the next morning with great pain in both her abdomen and vaginal area. In fact, the pain in her abdomen kept getting worse and worse. Finally, on Monday, they took her back into the operating room to find out the cause of the pain. The first abdominal operation was performed with an incision along the bikini line. For the second operation, they made an incision from the navel down to the first incision, and repaired the small intestine that had been improperly closed and had been leaking. This was the third operation in as many days.

In addition to all this, her right leg hurt her all the time. When she tried to walk, it was like her leg was asleep, making it almost impossible for her to walk on it. When she asked why her leg hurt so much, the doctor told her that exercise would take the pain away. But, how could she exercise when she couldn't walk on the leg?

The following Monday, she was still in great pain both in her abdomen and her vagina, and so weak that she could barely walk. (She had been on intravenous feeding since her operation. They removed the tubes just before discharging her.) As they discharged her, they failed to give her any instructions regarding diet, douching, or dilation. In addition, a stent was never inserted, as indicated in the pamphlet, into her vagina to keep it from fusing together.

She arrived home on June 8, 1992, exhausted, weak, and in great pain. She remained mostly in bed for nine days. The pain was increasing both in her vagina and in her abdomen. I talked with her by phone once or twice every day, besides visiting her. I could tell by the sound of her voice the tremendous amount of pain she was experiencing.

On June 17, I walked in to see her, and was shocked with the way she looked. I have seen dead people with more color in their faces. (I did work for morticians in my younger days.) I also noticed that her abdomen was extended under her dress. After telling her that

she looked very sick, Barbara informed me that she had a new problem.

"I was wiping myself and felt something inside my vagina. I tried pulling at it thinking it was packing that had been left inside, but it would not come out. Then I noticed that I was bleeding."

I couldn't believe my ears, and told her that she better return to the hospital. But, Barbara said that she had an appointment for a check up at the hospital on June 22nd, and she would wait until then.

She arrived home... exhausted, weak, and in great pain

I knew that she needed attention now, and upon returning to my business, contacted some friends who called the hospital and talked with the doctor who told them to bring Barbara back to the hospital, NOW! Fortunately, Barbara was too weak to put up much resistance, and they drove her to the hospital that day.

The following morning, Barbara was back in surgery for a third abdominal operation. Her intestine was still leaking into her abdominal cavity. She was also anemic, and her body was rejecting her newly constructed vagina.The doctor informed her that if she had not returned to the hospital that day, her vagina would have ruptured,and she would have bled to death in two hours.

For four pain-racked days, she lay in bed, was back on intravenous feeding, and massive doses of antibiotics to prevent her body from continuing to reject her vagina, and to clear up the infection in her abdomen. Four days later, she was returned to the operating room to open and redo her vagina. She remained in the hospital until June 30. Ironically, Barbara was again discharged without any follow up care instructions.

Since that time, Barbara has returned to have the stitches removed from her abdomen, and they also reopened her vagina. The last thing she wants to do now is return to that hospital. She is thoroughly fed up with the whole sordid ordeal, and just wants to get her life and health back the way they were before the operation(s).

Barbara's experience has been an education for me. I shudder every time I think of experiencing five major operations with three spinals in a four week period, along with all the pain she endured, and still has. (I don't believe that they have an anesthesiologist because they performed all their operations with spinals.) Did I forget to mention that the quoted $6,000 operation has now risen to $12,400? Her leg still hurts after over six weeks, and she can barely walk on it. She still has a long way to go before she is back to her prior health and all the pain she is still experiencing finally goes away.

Isn't it ironic how we accept and believe what we read in advertising copy? What great power advertising has over our lives! The surgery sounded fabulous in the brochure. Four of my girlfriends were elated with what they read and opted to have their surgery at this same hospital. Two are still having problems, Barbara and Jessica. Jessica has also had an infection since her operation, and has returned twice to the hospital to have her vagina reopened. The outcome of the other two is still in question.

This 50% odds for successful surgery scares me. I know that Barbara would never have made the trip to the hospital if she had known the true facts. How do I know? She told me.

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THE MEDIA FROM BOTH SIDES NOW

by Mariette Pathy Allen

(This keynote address was delivered at the tenth Annual Be All Convention, June 1992, in Detroit, Michigan.)

It has been three years, three Be Alls, since I last spoke to you about my experiences from both sides of the media. Since then, my book *Transformations* was published and, as a result, I have participated in over fifty radio and television programs, a number of magazine articles, two solo photography exhibitions, and several group shows.

Sound exciting? Sound triumphant? Actually, I've got a somewhat bittersweet story to tell you. In relating the history of my last three years, I hope you'll be able to see parallels to yourselves as members of the gender community, and to the progress of the gender community on the whole. My struggles, successes and failures, are closely connected to yours. Finally, I'd like us to examine the larger picture of where we stand and how we can change our respective visions for the '90's and beyond.

On October 31, 1989 -- Halloween, the crossdressers' National Holiday -- E. P. Dutton, Inc., a distinguished old publishing company, was swallowed up by the Viking-Penguin conglomerate. Most of the editorial staff, including my enlightened editor, the art director, and the publicity department were fired that day. Although just a statistic for most people—another publishing house bites the dust— this was really Black Halloween for all of us. *Transformations*, too far along to be stopped, was inherited by the editor of Viking Studio, who is used to books on gardening, cooking, and travel. He was not impressed.

Perhaps because there was no love lost on *Transformations*, three errors occurred:

1) The book showed up in bookstores at the end of December/beginning of January. It needed to be out in November for Christmas, or in early spring after the unsold Christmas books were returned to their publishers.

2) Because the production got delayed, the book was printed in the US rather than in Europe or the Far East where the printing quality is much higher. As a result, the black-and-white photographs are thinner, less luscious than they would be, and they make the book look more like a textbook than an art book.

3) The junior publicist who wrote the book's press release focused on a few individuals in the book and their problematic childhoods as reasons for crossdressing, thus reinforcing a limited view of gender issues as well as of the book. The more universal perspective, the reasons why the book could be seen as something more than a specialty book, would have been lost to anyone who read the press release.

Nevertheless, we did get a book (after about three years and fifty rejections). Poorly marketed, unloved by its new editor, *Transformations* threatened to languish on the bookshelves. Mainstream reviewers didn't seem to realize that this is a potentially revolutionary book, a radical book that probes, through the honesty of courageous individuals and their families, major questions such as: What does it really mean to be a woman or a man? and, How can our society reinvent itself to accommodate our infinite variety as human beings? Those are the questions that concern me, and I assume everyone else, to some degree. Yet, time and again, *Transformations* gets dismissed as a specialty book.

Book reviews gradually emerged from the gay press. Without any exceptions that I know of, gay critics expressed interest and understanding. Highly favorable reviews have also appeared in sex and psychology journals. But, as I said, the mainstream press, *The New York Times*, even *The Village Voice*, ignored *Transforma-*

tions. The only exceptions were two art reviews when my dye-transfer portfolio was exhibited in a gallery in Soho.

Something had to be done! I followed up any radio and television leads suggested to me by friends, then hired a consultant. I rewrote the press release, and wrote up a list of twenty questions for interviewers to ask me. My consultant suggested that I write down the five points I really wanted to make during any interview, so that no matter what I might be asked, I'd find some way to make them.

I thought you might like to hear about a few radio and television highs and lows. Worst radio experience: "The Stacey Taylor Show" in Chicago. The host, "Aren't these people just compulsive like those people who keep dusting their furniture?" An irate caller, "Our company lost our biggest account because the client found out one of our employees is a crossdresser." Finally, the only person from *Transformations* who called in was Rachel, who's into B & D. Other, more typical remarks, plucked from an assortment of shows: A police officer claims that crossdressing is as much of "a family secret" as child molestation. A crossdresser, speaking languorously, describes what she's wearing in excruciating detail. A host asks, "Aren't they all like that because their fathers were drunk or absent when they were growing up?" Along the way, I've also had some excellent experiences. Some highlights: University of Minnesota radio, The Morning Exchange television show in Cleveland, and National Public Radio. The purpose of these shows seems to be to stretch, expand, and grow at nobody's expense.

The seriousness of our mission needs playfulness. In fact, some of the best experimentation and learning comes from playing

It becomes clearer to me all the time that my purpose in working with you is to enlarge the image of the gender community. The culture we live in, which is reflected by the media, wants to minimize the contribution made by those who question gender rôle in their hearts and in their lives. Society would prefer to ignore the traps that lie in living as stereotypes of masculinity and femininity. They'd rather see you as sick, immoral, or simply entertaining. You are still objects of fear and hatred to more people than we can imagine.

This brings me to the Geraldo show, my most recent tryst with the media. The Geraldo show is a great example of our culture's pervasive attempts to turn what's potentially challenging into something merely entertaining.

It all started when Merissa and I gave a talk at a psychology class at Pace University in New York City. Bill Lancaster, a producer for the Geraldo show, was also a guest. He liked my slide show and accompanying comments, and asked me to go on the show, show pictures, talk about the book, and provide some couples. Bill promised me we'd be encountering a kinder, gentler Geraldo, the Geraldo of high-minded social conscience. Although cynicism regarding Geraldo's touted reform prevailed among those I asked, Cynthia and Linda Phillips agreed to come to New York one more time, as a favor to me. They even persuaded a young couple from Texas, total media virgins, to join us. Bill wanted one more couple. He said that Mary, his sensitive, intelligent assistant had found a local couple. I asked for their names, sure that somebody I knew, if not I, would be likely to know them. Somehow, Bill could never come up with their names.

On the morning of the Geraldo show, I caught sight of a couple decked out in full fantasy drag, larger than life in platform shoes, painted tattoos, black lace, satin tap shorts, glitter, and a crew cut. Theatrical night creatures. "Please don't let this be couple number three," I prayed. Then I prayed that couple number one and couple number two wouldn't see them. Not reasonable prayers. When we got to the dressing room, we were introduced to Fuchsia and Martin X.

Thus began a series of negotiations more intricate than anything attempted by the UN. To simplify, but still give you a little of the flavor of that morning: The Phillipses would not appear on the same stage with Fuchsia and Martin X. The young couple from Texas, in wide-eyed shock, were ready to take the next plane home. I asked Bill what he thought they were doing, combining apples and oranges like this. Mary, his assistant, was furious. "Shouldn't you be tolerant of each other?" she snapped. Finally, a compromise was reached and Fuchsia and Martin X were interviewed from the front row of the audience. No chairs were broken.

It seems that this year Geraldo had held his staff Christmas party at Limelight, one of the livelier discos in New York, where Fuchsia and Martin X work. Obviously, Bill and Mary knew exactly what they were doing. To me, Fuchsia and Martin X are interesting and colorful characters, but would be more appropriate on a show that presented the variety of people in the gender spectrum.

Obviously, we continue to be fodder for the media, especially television, which has become king in our culture now. However, instead of trying to persuade television to change its skim-the-surface superficiality, we attempt to re-make ourselves to fit into its sound and light bytes. (Could Washington or Lincoln become President now?) We must make the media safe for thinkers again.

I think it's absolutely imperative for the gender community and those who understand its importance, to keep the larger perspective in mind whenever we appear in public. The inability to take this movement seriously invites contempt and, ultimately, self-hatred.

"But," you ask, "what about the newcomer, or the fetishist? They're not crusaders." Actually, fetishism is the doorway to initiation, the ritual of self-discovery that opens up the world of gender questioning. That's the beginning, but do you want to stay at the doorway?

When you allow yourself to walk through that doorway, you realize that what you're doing is living an experiment. Right now, Western cultural traditions are undergoing radical changes. The gender community is in the middle of this seismic change, searching for the essence of masculinity and femininity and combining them. We must keep asking ourselves, "What is the meaning of what we're doing for the culture at large?" Surely our mission is not just to try to accommodate ourselves, to fit in, to apologize for being unusual, to smell like victims. Rather, I think we must become leaders in this changing society, spiritual, artistic, intellectual sages, people who are not afraid to see more and to know more.

The seriousness of our mission needs playfulness. In fact, some of the best experimentation and learning comes from playing. On the dance floor, there's the experimentation of finding a new self to move in, or move with. Self-expression goes beyond just re-creating an aesthetic form, following the how-to-ness of prescribed positions. There's also interpersonal play: reaching out, moving with others, creating new combinations, mixing it all up. Finally, there's an overview of the whole floor, a moral vision, the sense of a community moving together. This is playing at its best: creating new visions.

Dancing serves to remind us of our body: the source of pain, pleasure, and questioning, especially for the gender community. Besides dancing, the ways you express affection is another innovation. You go beyond the stereotypes associated with your anatomy to express love and affection in hugging, crying together, holding hands, gestures of admiration, gentle adjustments of clothing. You express love without being lovers. Don't you realize how special you are, my friends, and what you have to offer to society?

Finally, you've invented these conventions. They're like islands out of time. You must keep experimenting with what works for growth. Work to strengthen your inventiveness, and prepare to lead society in new spiritual directions. You can become the modern-day berdaches, artists, teachers, gender gurus!

One way to keep the experiment fresh: associate more with the arts and artists. Art is about revelations. It allows you to move from formulae to invention. Another is to keep observing our cultural icons. What does Madonna say about our society? President Bush? Can we reinterpret them back to society in a new way?

Once we have clear and powerful images of ourselves, and of the gender community as a whole, maybe we'll be able to empower the media with a new vision of ourselves and, ultimately, of themselves, as definers of the world. Come, let us dance together!

GOING PUBLIC

by Janyne Cresap

(Edited from The Flip Side, August, 1991, Tri Delta Chi, P O Box 870213, New Orleans LA 70187-1300. This article is a combination of material that originally appeared in Cross Talk, Issue #24, P O Box 944, Woodland Hills CA 91365.)

I have often heard crossdressers say society will not accept us, or the public isn't ready for us, or some similar statement. Of course it's true, and the public will never be accepting of us until we are accepting of ourselves and are accepting of society. The world will never invite us out into it in our clothing/gender choice. The only way the world will ever get used to seeing genetic males in a feminine gender form is by seeing us and interacting with us.

I can remember when seeing an openly gay couple was shocking. Now, it's commonplace. Interracial couples were very rare. Now, it's seen all the time. The world around us only had to get accustomed to it to accept it. Crossdressers tend to isolate themselves and not to be seen. That's OK if it's your choice, but it's we, not they that make it so.

The civil rights movement, gay and lesbian activists, and the women's movement have all done their part in changing oppressive laws and in clearing away the sexual stereotyping that used to shape our society. There is no reason that we can't go public if we want to. The law is on our side. The rules are in place. It's OK to do it . . . it really is.

Those ladies who have gone to the Holiday En Femme, or the Texas T Party, or Fantasia Fair tell grand stories about going out in public and being totally accepted. They shopped and dined and strolled around and felt just as feminine as their little hearts could stand. The reason is because the hotels and restaurants and stores were expecting them and wanted the money in their purses. Nice fat male incomes, combined with the spending desires of women on vacation . . . a marketing dream.

Everybody prospers from this. Crossdressers meet the public, and the public meets us. The people of Houston, or San Antonio, or Provincetown get just a little used to crossdressers and the crossdressers get a little used to the public. It can and does work.

Many of us come from a shame-based background (OK, I've been reading John Bradshaw again). We are ashamed of ourselves because we have deep feminine feelings. We grew up shamed by those feelings and learned at an early age to keep them hidden. When I was a little boy, I learned that my little girl feelings were bad, that " . . . little boys don't do that . . . only sissies do that . . . you'll never be a soldier if you're wearing nail polish." The little girl inside me learned to expect to be laughed at, because that's what happened to boys like me. I learned that at home, not by exposing my femme self to the world. I also learned to assert myself in many areas, and would never accept ridicule for my actions or beliefs, except for my crossdressing.

We all come from different places. Going public is a deeply personal and individual thing. Each of us who chooses to do so, will proceed at her own pace. Crossdresser support groups may be just another closet to come out of. They don't really get us out into the world, they just put more of us into one room (or closet).

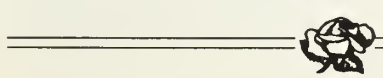
I have dreamt of a day when I could go anywhere as any gender form I choose. The reality of that scenario is that it's my own discomfort that prevents it, not the society I would prefer to blame. The punch line to all of this is that there is politics involved. Educating the public to be aware of us, and to expect to see us around, requires us to participate in society. Convincing the business community that they need our spendable cash is a good start. We must now let our elected representatives know how we feel, and lend our support to the organizations that further our interests through their own. Most importantly, we must help each other along the road to self-acceptance.

This is a highly visible lifestyle. The thing that makes it work comes from deep inside and cannot be seen from the outside. Except for the fact that I crossdress, I think of myself as pretty much a mainstream kind of person. My limited experience with the straight world so far has been pretty positive. The people I have come in contact with who, for some reason or another, learn that I crossdress, have all taken it with a positive attitude.

As you can probably tell, I am bullish on straight society. It's the arena I want to play in. I believe we will see a day when it will be OK to use whatever gender form we deem appropriate for the occasion, the only boundaries being those of good taste.

I also think the only way to attain that freedom is to affirm our friendship with the so-called "straight" society, with dignity in what we do, pride in how we do it, courtesy and respect for the people we come in contact with, and the feeling that they are our friends and not our enemies.

Society may be ready for us. Are we ready for it?



ANASTASIA RISING

by S. E. Toon

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I'm alive at this very moment and I can't believe it! As I write these thoughts down, the mortal coil constricts. It is early morning and I am on a city-bound train trying to make it to a medical center to have a deep vein integrity test done on my lower left leg. It has become inflamed, red, puffy, painful. Drunk with the fear from little knowledge, I start to contemplate my own mortality. My worse fears, a deep vein thrombosis (DVT) with a potentially lethal clot with brain, heart, or lung written on it. All it need do is dislodge, and then, "Boom, boom, boom! Out go the lights!" What if my fears are confirmed, but the condition is temporarily arrested? How would the complications affect my surgery, scheduled only three months from now, so close, but at this instant, so far away. I think of dancing, an activity that so fills my heart with joy and celebration. Would that have to become a vicarious activity? I am afraid.

As transsexuals in transition we become quite inured to fear. When we make our decision, we must risk everything acquired in a lifetime to progress down that solitary path towards completeness. We must become insulated from the repercussions of our actions, knowing that the worst will strike at the least likely time. After going through a lot of this maturation (birth is never painless), we come to realize that this is all part of the price we must pay in order to cross society's established gender lines. If you are being honest with yourself, you persevere to align your body and social role to coincide with that of your mind.

While dealing with so many of these fears and conflicts at so many different levels, we tend to forget (during the course of pre-operative chemical therapy) that we are constantly compromising our state of health and, in certain cases, starting a courtship with death.

All TS individuals, that is, those of us who have taken long and arduous steps to come to terms with just who and what we are (as opposed to individuals in the throes of transsexual inclination while in the midst of their gender exploration) have peered into the abyss. It is an unfortunate common thread that binds us. The potential for self-induced or self-willed tragedy stares intently at each one of us. This confrontation comes just before we make our first truly positive effort to survive and to heal.

I consider myself lucky just having understood who I was (a woman) and what I was (a transsexual) as early as sixth grade. Not that it made any of the frustrations or loneliness any less sorrowful, but they were devoid of the maddening confusion many transsexuals go through. Everything revolved around getting from point A to point Z without failure. After cultivating friends and family (although they did not know of my gender within, they did know all the time who I was), getting a quality education (a woman needs the necessary tools for today's work place), and adequate work experience (I'd need it, it would be hard enough <u>with</u> experience), I was ready . . . TRANSITION TIME! Looking back at how truly attainable gender transition is to those who progress with care and attention, I at times wish I had taken a more accelerated track, but, as we all know, looking back serves no constructive purpose. Anyway, I was ready, but my body was not.

During my sophomore year in college I was told that I would need a varicose vein operation. My legs had been cramping a little, but otherwise didn't trouble me. The doctor said the bad veins had to go and it was done. The legs regained their strength, and I soon found myself in running shape participating in 10 km races. There was no problem cosmetically either. I came to enjoy running greatly, loving what it did to sharpen both my mind and my body. It seemed to strengthen the woman I was inside. I so wanted to run the Bonnie Bell (an all women's road race) as my true self, my head held high; victorious.

Just as I was at the level of training where I could complete the Boston Marathon, in stepped my vascular surgeon. He shared with me, "Yes, you could run the race, but you could also die." That was a hell of a price to pay for personal glory. The doctor wanted to operate as soon as possible. Instead of racing through Hopkinton, I was raced through admitting to be operated on a second time. / *I am in the emergency room of the hospital waiting for my name to be called. I am in Boston, just two days before the Marathon. As I got near the building, runners were scattered over the scenery like phantoms, an unsettling backdrop as I write this. Spooky at best.* /

If you could call the first procedure a success, the second was a travesty. No one on the hospital staff could understand why a grown male would cry openly for so long over the work done. Trying to lighten things up a little, one nurse said that I wouldn't be able to hail a cab with that leg anymore. She didn't know that I would want to keep that option open in the future. As time passed, I got used to the idea of having an eyesore for a leg. I rationalized that some infinite power put this before me to strip away any delusions of vanity that had to do with my transition. / *I am now in Emergency, blood tests having been drawn, waiting, waiting, waiting.* /

It was after all this time in a backwater that I finally came up to the mouth of the abyss. Until this moment, I had been methodical, patient, and persistent. Surely, this level-headed gal would be given admissions through the gates of transition. The required therapy, although at certain times painful, proved to be merely another prerequisite. All the helping professionals I had met felt that I was a good candidate for reassignment. Then the warning came: individuals with bad vascular history make poor candidates for estrogen therapy, and especially for SRS. My nemesis had appeared.

Did this long and steadfast quest end here without even an attempt to achieve a wholeness of self? I vowed that I would rather attempt to "be" and lose (die), than never to be able to try (death through living). During this period of my life I could understand why many sisters and brothers on the streets resort to black market hormones. It is the desperation of life-or-death fueling their actions; a gamble to potentially win is better than not to play at all. I let the depressing news come to me. I was stopped before I had begun, and I was utterly alone. My life became dispensable.

Whether from the religion in which I was raised, or the learning about the value of life, I knew I could not take my own life. If I had found myself on the wrong side of a crosswalk with a Mack truck bearing down on me, I am sure, though, I would have hesitated before retreating to the safety of the curb. It would have been a case of subconscious prophecy fulfillment. On the outside I was a Good Ol' Boy (are we good at building façades!), but inside, Stacey was dying. After a time of clinging to the edge, Dr. Sheila Kirk gave me the information I needed. She assured me that, indeed, nothing is impossible to a strong human spirit, and told me to see a specialist and have certain tests run. Within a month of that fateful meeting, I was well on my way towards a better life. / *This stinks! The head doctor says that a potential DVT is possible, but unlikely. I have an infection that will need antibiotics and observation. It's a good stink in any case, but it means I have to stay in the hospital. The student vampires arrive to take more blood.* /

So I looked down into the blackest black, teetered on its edge, and managed to scurry back over that ridge, praying never to have to return to that formidable point again. As my transition progressed with its natural ups and downs, a distance grew between me and the abyss. Transsexual life (and Life in general) is really a complex game of Chutes and Ladders. At one moment you're queen of the hill, then Whoops!..Yesterday, there I was, today, here I am, looking back at the gaping hole of oblivion, my nemesis sitting and waiting, hungry.

It is ironic that I would be having a heart-to-heart with my personal God on this of all days, Good Friday. In the Christian religion, this is the day Jesus was in Gethsemane praying to His maker. I had always found it the most poignant chapter in the Christ story, telling us that anger, fear, frustration, pleading, and yes, even disbelief, are all part of communing with God. Here I am in a hospital bed praying in my own garden.

The floodgates opened. I questioned why I was to struggle for so long only to die that evening, a dream unfulfilled. I rationalized that my life taken now would suit no good purpose; that I had so much more of a mission ahead of me. I condemned the randomness of life, and indeed, ended up crying for the mercy of Him/Her to allow me to be more whole before taking me from this plane (the idea of dying with a male body seems the utmost perversity of life). I confessed my very mortality. Being a good Christian girl, I concluded with a humble, "Thy will be done," and started to fall asleep amidst tears and fever sweat. / *Oww . . . IV was bad so they try again, the antibiotics start.* /

All TS individuals... have peered down into the abyss. It is an unfortunate common thread that binds us

There I lay on the gurney, in a johnny, being wheeled, appropriately, to the women's ward, waiting for the test results. The news on DVT will decide whether I should anticipate SRS in August. A calm washes over me as I realize my transition is already complete. I am sure that the worst case scenario would be to drastically reduce my hormones until my body is stable enough to withstand the trauma of surgery. With my focus off myself, I begin to share in the inner circle of the female staff and patients here. Save for my head doctor, they do not know my history. We proceed to share with each other through the warmth of our conversation and experience; the healing process that comes

from that unwritten bond of sorority. With a hospital Easter to look forward to, I feel today that I am a stronger woman. The rebirth seems more appropriate now than in August due to the handiwork of a technician. It is today that I more fully understand the miracle of life.

It seems that once you think you've fit life's answer into a nutshell, you get a bigger nut to crack. Sure, there is a lame joke in there somewhere, and ordinarily Stacey would be the first to go for it. Another day, maybe, but not today.

/ I check on my roommate. She says she's 137 years old.

"It feels that way sometimes, huh, dear?" I tell her. She smiles. I smile back. I cajole her into eating more of her pudding. The TV is on, "Jeopardy" fills the room. Alex Trebeck quizes,

"Where there's life . . . "

I say, "What is, ' there is hope'?" /

(Ed. note: At 11:00pm, Stacey was told that she did not have a clot, and that her Dopler test proved good deep vein integrity. Her SRS was completed without complications this past August.)

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SUPPORT GROUP OR CLUB?

by Angela Martin

In the past decade or so, it seems that society has developed support groups for every human condition. A recent edition of the local paper listed support groups for people with such varied issues as becoming deaf as an adult, gambling, being a gay parent, impotence, wives of cheating husbands and, of course, crossdressing. Personally, I have begun to feel that the phrase "support group" has become a cliché, and that the real purpose of many of these support groups has been lost. These alleged support groups were started with the best of intentions, but, unfortunately, many have evolved into clubs.

As an active member of a traditional and time-tested support group not related to crossdressing, I have gained an understanding of what they are about, how they work and the hazards they face as they evolve. I also belong to several clubs not related to crossdressing, and I can see the difference between a support group and a club. I would like to share this knowledge with you by presenting a simple test you can use to determine if your organization is a support group or a club.

1. Do participants feel free to talk about what is on their minds? Support groups offer participants the opportunity to be intimate and honest with others by sharing their inner fears hopes, dreams and feelings. By talking with others and listening to how they have faced similar situations, participants discover that they are not alone in the world. Feelings of isolation and guilt are overcome when they realize that they are not unique. On the other hand, clubs do not offer much opportunity for discussion and personal growth. Conversations are usually about material items, things the members have done, or advice-giving.

2. Do participants encourage others to grow as individuals? In a support group, seasoned participants nurture new members and old-timers who are going through difficult times. By doing this, the seasoned members know they are helping by sharing their strength with those who need it. By reaching out they will grow as individuals. In a club, members tend to be detached from others and rarely reach out to one another.

3. Is the direction of the group determined by a majority of the participants, or is it run by a few members? Support groups are based on the concept that they are a joining together of people who share a common issue. How this has affected individuals may vary. How they express themselves is up to them. Participants join together because of this issue. The direction of the group is determined by all the participants, even if by default. This means the group is being operated on principles rather than by a few dominant personalities. Clubs are a joining together of people who share a common interest, and are usually dominated by strong personalities. The values and standards of these personalities are assumed by the organization. When this happens, weaker members feel that they don't fit in, and they drop by the wayside. In a support group, principles are placed before personalities. In a club, personalities often eclipse principles.

4. Are participants at meetings focused on understanding reality, or are they busy pursuing a fantasy? A good support group helps its members comprehend and accept reality, personal boundaries and limits, while learning the importance of personal responsibility. As a crossdresser, this understanding of reality and limits is important. It may give a member the tools and skills s/he needs to keep crossdressing from becoming an obsession, or it could help him/her face the facts about his/her present life. Clubs may encourage crossdressing without question. They offer a pleasant and friendly environment that could make an impressionable crossdresser believe that life would be better in the preferred gender rôle. S/he may seek that rôle blindly and without regard for the risks and the consequences. In a club, pleasant events are always associated with crossdressing.

5. Are meetings primarily socially oriented? The operation of a club is based on social events: parties, evenings on the town, makeup demonstrations, etc. Events are superficial, offering little, if any, opportunity for personal growth. A support group has meetings that are people-based, not event-centered. They encourage individuals to develop their alternate gender-rôle persona. This is done by helping members to explore their alternate selves by sharing with other members and listening and learning how others have grown.

6. Do members feel free to attend meetings as either their masculine or feminine selves? The club mentality dictates that members attending meetings or events must be crossdressed. Those who are not feel a stigma, not unlike being a steelworker at a bridge party. Support groups accept members in any reasonable form of dress.

A crossdresser support group would readily welcome a member who attends a meeting in a three-piece Brooks Brothers suit, t-shirt and jeans, house dress or evening gown. Minimal restrictions may apply: lingerie and dressing like a hooker being excluded for obvious reasons.

7. Do members of the group accept those who don't fit their image of a crossdresser? In a club, fancy dressing is the rule. Meetings are an opportunity to dress up and glow like a peacock. What about the crossdresser who doesn't fit the image because s/he thinks s/he weighs too much, is on a tight budget, or isn't interested in stylish clothing? A support group acknowledges that some crossdressers may be uncomfortable with their feminine/masculine image and they are not yet ready to express it at meetings. Support groups recognize the need for personal expression, and make people feel welcome even though they may not fit the typical image of the crossdresser. They value participants for what they are inside, not for how they appear on the outside.

8. Do senior members readily reach out to new members? When a first-time crossdresser enters a room full of strangers, it is probably the hardest thing s/he will do in her/his lifetime. A new member's first impressions and feelings are important. In a club, the comments a new member receives are often cursory ones about how s/he looks and acts. A support group makes a new member feel secure, welcome and needed. A touch or a hug from a senior member who is available for talks, correspondence or casual get togethers will help the new member feel more comfortable with the group.

9. Does the group offer personal anonymity? Members of a club are often busy trying to find out anything and everything they can about other members. Unfortunately, if a member shares too much about him/herself, it could place him/her in a difficult situation at work, in the family or in the community. Support groups recognize the need for anonymity and security. Members share a minimal amount of personal information with the group, but they are encouraged to get to know others they are comfortable with.

10. Does the group have a purpose? A club's purpose is to provide an environment for members to get together and socialize. Formal and informal rules are observed at meetings. A support group provides a non-judgmental and secure setting where members can learn about themselves by sharing with others. In a support group, talking, listening, learning and personal growth are the purposes.

11. Are participants encouraged to willingly serve the group and the community? Participants in a support group grow by doing service for the group and for the community. This service is as simple as opening or closing the meeting place, maintaining the library, keeping the books or chairing the meetings. Service is given without expectation of anything in return. It is done willingly and as an act of love for the group. In a club, a few people usually do all or most of the work. Club members develop the belief that they do not have to do anything to make the club work because someone else is doing it. Club members are takers rather than givers. Support group members know that they have to give if they are going to grow and the group is going to survive.

An effective support group stands and grows on a strong foundation

12. Do current leaders recognize they are temporary workers only? In a club, leadership and administrative positions are often hard to fill because members do not feel comfortable in the jobs. People who do take them on may form the organization and membership based on their own images and values. Positions are filled for indefinite time periods. Leadership in support groups is based on the Trusted Servant concept. This means that members who step into leadership are servants of the group, guiding it on the basis of the group will and the group purpose. Leadership positions are filled for a specific period of time, and no person holds more than one position at a time. When a person's term expires, the person filling it steps aside. If no one steps forward to take on the task, the job remains undone until one is ready to assume it.

I have heard that many crossdressing groups have gone through a predictable growth and death pattern. That is to say, early on they grow at a good rate. Then, as membership participation dwindles, they die off. This could be because once a crossdressing group has reached out to most of the crossdressers in the community, they are like the life insurance agent who has sold

policies to all his relatives and friends. This is when the true test of the organization begins. As the organization grows, it is essential to make every member feel they are a part of it. Contrary to what many believe, strength does not come from recruiting new members. It comes from motivating active members to do the simple tasks that must be done to keep the group going. By operating with a healthy and active membership base, the group will insure its survival and attract new members. To paraphrase a saying of a few years ago, "Build a good group, and the members will make it work."

By their nature, support groups are feminine. That is to say, they encourage the traditional feminine qualities of nurturing, sharing and caring. This is done by focusing on issues rather than on interests. They encourage personal growth by discouraging obsession, guilt, denial and self-deception. Clubs do little to aid in individual growth. They are more socially-based, and members may tend to control rather than submit to group will.

The change of a support group into a club is not necessarily the fault of the leadership. The true cause most often rests in the way the organization is structured, and the lack of meaningful communication between members. An effective support group stands and grows on a strong foundation. Time-tested groups, like Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon, are firmly rooted in their steps and traditions. Perhaps it is because the steps encourage personal growth and the traditions serve as a guideline for the groups. When a problem comes up in a group, members collect in a meeting to discuss it and it is usually resolved using the traditions as a guide.

It is said that support groups are inclusive, readily accepting all members of the community who share the common issue. This being the case, it can also be said that clubs are exclusive, tending to exclude those who don't share their interests or meet their criteria. Groups that become clubs are more likely to fail because they have alienated members. Indeed, groups that have evolved into clubs are more like a VFW or a KKK than like a genuine support group. For those of us who have experienced personal growth in a vital and functioning support group, the witnessing of such a transition is a tragedy.

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NANCY D. - Delaware

IN SEARCH OF A COMMUNITY

by Nancy Cole

For the past three years I have had the privilege of moving about this country and attending many of the events that have been sponsored by national, regional, and local support groups that are part of what we have come to call the transgender community, or the Community, for short. In the beginning, I was no different than any other person looking for themselves. Like you, and thousands of others, I met many people who represented many different views, organizations, and forms of expression. While I never used a simple mechanical method, each time I met a new person or came across a new group within the Community, I looked at them, their issues, and the life styles they represented in an effort to find kindred spirits with which I could both identify and sympathize.

At first, my efforts were quite selfish. I was a simple wanderer, looking for myself and my place. While in pursuit of this self fulfilling effort, I found myself drawn into the activities and the work of the Community. From doing simple, rather menial tasks, to running workshops, I started to become a part of it, this Community. But what, I have recently asked myself, have I become part of? What, in short, is our Community? Though I have heard this word, "Community" thrown about in articles, in speeches, in debates, and in discussions, no one to my satisfaction has been able to convince me that we are, in fact, a community. Rather, I have come to the conclusion that we are a collection of disjointed groups and individuals who have only one issue in common, the gender issue, and no agreed upon method or forum for collectively addressing it or dealing with it.

For those of you with an analytic mind, the word community comes from the Latin word *communitas*, meaning fellowship or common. As the word was passed down through the Old French , and then over to Middle English, the word made it into our language with several meanings. The ones that appear to me to apply to our community are: "A group of people living together as a smaller social unit within a larger one," and "similarity, likeness." Of these two, as our Community and the numerous organizations that populate it stands, neither of these meanings apply. This leads me to the conclusion, therefore, that we have no community. Let me explain.

At the last Be All weekend in Detroit, Michigan, Dr. George Brown gave a wonderful keynote speech on Saturday, June 13th, entitled "CD 2000." Dr. Brown used the results of his research to trace the evolution of the crossdressing community from its birth as a community in 1962 to the present in an effort to predict the future. Now, although he used the term crossdresser, transsexualism was as much a part of his address as was crossdressing. As I listened to him, I was fascinated by the clarity with which he saw the evolution of our Community, and the devastatingly simple and clear conclusions that he drew from that study. In short, he was not only able to see where our Community needed to go, but how it should get there. What appalled me, after I had thought about it for a while, was that a relative outsider, a person that was not the head of one of the many super groups that duel with each other for primacy within the transgender Community, developed this theory.

Now I do not wish to denigrate Dr. Brown. On the contrary, I applaud him. What he said and what he did for us in that effort needed to be done. What I find bothersome is that we did not, with all our collective skills, experience, and talent, develop a "CD 2000" theory first. There are, I feel, many reasons, none of which are good, for this failure on our part. And it is time, I believe, that we look at them coldly and objectively. If we do not, we will never be able to create that which we are striving for: a community working together in harmony for the benefit of all people who have gender issues that need to be addressed. The points listed below are in no particular order of importance. Each one, in itself, is a contributing factor that helps to divide, rather than build, an effective community.

THE MALADIES

COMPETITION AMONGST ORGANIZATIONS

This, of all our problems, is the most visible, and the most difficult to deal with. I have seen competition at all levels: national, regional, and local. Many of you have seen the same. For example, how many times have members of an open, local support group actively campaigned to discredit a newly founded Tri-Ess group in the same location? How many times have you heard members of a TS support group mock the members of a CD support group? If you have never heard any of this, you are either lucky, or you live in Montana.

At the national level, it is no better. We have, at this time, a number of organizations, each with its own agenda, each with its own by-laws, constitution, board of directors, publications, etc., all, in theory, working for the benefit of the gender dysphorics that populate this country. I have had an opportunity to travel to many of the conventions and events sponsored by these organizations. I have listened to their rhetoric, read their publications, and spoken with their leaders. For the most part, their words and ideas are good and well meaning. Unfortunately, far too much effort, especially in the private conversations and in print, is taken up with condemning the actions of an individual of another organization or the organization as a whole. Now, since I am as guilty as anyone else of participating in this useless and corrosive pursuit, I know of what I speak.

Now there is a need for diversity, for our Community is a very diverse one. The transsexuals have many issues that are foreign to the married cross dresser, and vice versa. There is no crime in this and there is no crime in having an organization that tends to the needs of a select group within the Community. Where the crime comes into play, in my opinion, is when a group pushes themselves and their agenda forward at the expense of another group and their agenda. This has happened, it is happening, and, unfortunately, it will continue to happen as long as we allow our national level organizations to deal with each other in a win-lose manner rather than working for a win-win solution that would benefit all of us, and not just a few.

The problem here, unfortunately, is that there does not exist, at this time, an effective forum or method with which all of the national level organizations can come together to discuss and work on common problems and resolve differences or issues. Tri-Ess has its national event, Holiday En Femme, and a follow-up board meeting to discuss their issues. Out Reach has Fantasia Fair, at which it does likewise IFGE attempted to create such an affair, but due to conflicts between organizations and individuals, the Coming Together - Working Together Convention is not, at this time, an effective forum in which this Community can come together and work. So, what we have is a number of groups, to which I can add Boulton and Park, Renaissance, PPOC, ETVC, and AEGIS, all of which have national recognition and a national voice, but none of which have a common ground on which they can all gather to discuss their differences and develop a unified agenda that would benefit the entire Community instead of the small segment of that community which each of these groups serves.

THE CULT OF THE PERSONALITY

This, of all the problems that our Community faces, is the most crippling handicap that we must deal with. There are, scattered across this country, a number of people, some of them self–appointed prophets and spokes-persons, who have been elevated on pedestals, or have climbed on them under their own power, that preach down to the members of our community. Now, let me soften this some by saying that there are people who have given this Community birth. People like Virginia Prince, Carol Beecroft, Merissa S. Lynn, Betty Ann Lind, Ari Kane, Lee Brewster, and many others suffered terribly and sacrificed much to give this community form, dignity, and purpose. To each of these people, and the many I have not named, I give thanks.

We must have a true and effective coming together where we can talk, discuss, and work together

Neither I nor any one else in this community, however, has to grovel at their feet for eternity, accepting every word that rolls off their tongues as gospel. For many people, at the local, regional, and national level, who have done much for the community have lost touch with goals that were once lofty and worthy. In place of these goals, they have built themselves tiny castles and surrounded them with moats to protect the fiefdoms which they built with their own hands. From their castles they hurl words, spoken and written, against any and all whom they feel have come to rob them of a dream and a vision. Rather than work with others to train and prepare them to take on leadership roles within the Community of the future, the lords and ladies of these castles cling to their power and prestige, kicking down any one who dares challenge them and building about

them a loyal core of mindless lackeys who will take their abuse and do their bidding. While many may say this is a bit harsh, I contend that this analysis is too frighteningly true. For those who doubt this, all you need to do is pick up some of the national publications circulating these days and count the number of poisonous darts being tossed about by those who are proclaimed to be the leaders of our Community.

WAR OF THE WORDS

There is, it seems, an overabundance of people in our Community who have a burning desire to invent new words to define problems and issues that have already been defined. In the beginning, there were transvestites and transsexuals. That, for most of the world, was satisfactory. We, the Community, however, needed to educate that poor ignorant world and prove to them that transvestites and transsexuals were not only wrong words, but totally misleading. So we started, at some distant point in the past, an arms race of sorts. But, rather than building new weapons, we built new words. Into the English language, our self-appointed, educated elite began a proliferation of new words to define gender dysphorics that would make the US - USSR arms race look like child's play: transgenderist, femmiphile, "T" person, genderist, cross dresser, F to M, M to F, CD, TV, TS, TG, androgyne, male lesbian, and a whole herd of other words and terms were created and unleashed to satisfy people's desire to make themselves more respectable to someone else. In this war of words, we created a source of division, a division that separated rather than unified our Community. I make a point of this seemingly trivial issue because there has been more time spent debating and writing about this foolish pursuit of the perfect word or term than there has been in trying to deal with community-building. Again, if you find this hard to believe, read some of our Community's publications and newsletters.

THE CREATION OF SUBGROUPS WITHIN A SUBGROUP

Those of us who have gender issues are, already, a sub group within our own society. This brings us back to one of the definitions of the word community: "A group of people living together as a smaller social unit within a larger one." Now, a reasonable person would expect that since we are already a subgroup, and one that is not especially welcomed to start with, we should do everything within our power to strengthen the bonds between us. We, all the members of the transgender community, should be working our hoofies to the quick in an effort to present to our society the best and most positive image of who we are that is possible.

That, however, seems to be beyond our capabilities at this time. While this is lamentable, what is inexcusable is the fact that we are going in the opposite direction. Rather than seeking every means available to bind ourselves together, we are working overtime to tear ourselves apart. It seems everyone not only wants to have their own little castle and group, they want their own little well-defined special interest group. We have, for example, the male to female transsexuals. They have their agenda, meet at their appointed times and places, and discus their issues and needs. Beside them, we have the female to male transsexuals. They have their agenda, meet at their appointed times and places, and discuss their issues and needs. Off in another corner, we have the married, heterosexual crossdressers, (or is it tranvestitite?), with their agenda, meetings at their appointed times and places where they hold discussions concerning their issues and needs. Somewhere around the corner are the female to male cross dressers, endeavoring to find their place to go off and deal with their agenda. Spread across this whole landscape here and there are the transgenderists, androgynes, fetishists of every size, shape, and variety, and any number of other subgroups you can imagine. In short, we have a pulling apart, and not a pulling together.

This, of course, is only natural, for when there is no respected leadership to follow, or a caring community that can deal with their needs, people will wander off on their own and create associations, no matter how fragmented, small, and narrow of view, that fill their needs. Hence, some of the problems discussed above impact down here, and throughout this discussion.

ARGUMENTS FOR THE SAKE OF ARGUMENT

Among the selected few who have their hands on the handle of the printing presses within our Community, there are some who enjoy creating and perpetuating arguments, feuds, and conflict. Some call it yellow journalism. I would prefer to think of it as simply a person seeking a forum in which he or she can demonstrate either his or her command of the written language, or to push forth their thoughts and ideas, regardless of how foolish or worthless they may be, consequences be damned, just for the sake of arguing. In short, many of those people in our Community who write, edit, and, in theory, lead us, waste more time hacking away at opposing groups or individuals than they do attempting to bring us together. Witty little zingers that slash across a person's soul are, to some, more important than words that can heal us together. If we were to take all the print wasted in character assassination and devote it to Community building, we just might have something. Unfortunately, as long as we have people who prefer the poetic kill over the binding of wounds, we will all suffer.

SOME THOUGHTS ON SOLUTIONS

I have, by this time, offended many. That you are still reading this is good, for it shows that maybe there is hope for us, or perhaps you find some merit in my observations. We can aspire to the theory that Dr.

George Brown forwarded in his speech entitled "CD 2000," but, I ask, what can we do? What must we do? I offer some thoughts. I will aim high, at the national organizations, for they are, at this time, the fewest in number and the easiest to gather together. I ask that those of you who are leaders of national or major regional organizations to open correspondence with each other. This approach, after all, was how the 13 separate colonies took their first tentative steps toward unity in the mid-1700s. Talk to one and other. I mean really talk. For once, drop your rhetoric and past distrust and talk with your heart. Exchange ideas, thoughts, and, most important of all, accept the thoughts and ideas of those writing to you. Though I know it will be hard for some of you to push aside animosities, and in some cases, hatred, you must if communications are to be open and meaningful. Tell each other what you see and what you truly believe, in your heart and soul. Perhaps you may find that your differences are not that great.

Next, we must come together. We must have a true and effective coming together where we can talk, discuss, and work together. As the Vice-Chair of the IFGE Board of Directors, I would like to invite all of you who consider yourselves to be leaders within our Community to come to Philadelphia next March for the Coming Together - Working Together Convention. Let us come together and talk. Though this smacks of self promotion for IFGE, I can think of no other event or place where such a gathering can take place at this time. The original dream, shared by many, and not just one, was for this very purpose. Perhaps this year, when we meet in Philadelphia, as our forefathers did in 1775 during a time of great crisis, we can overcome the many problems that face our Community and forge an effective program that will allow us to work together.

For those of you who see merit in coming to Philadelphia in March of 1993, let us use the Congress of Reps, that political football much maligned of late, and little understood, as our forum. Alison Laing, a person of great strength and courage, is working hard to make the Congress an effective tool for the Community as a whole and not just for the few. Its success, or failure, is in our hands, our collective hands. Perhaps, if you believe in it, this would be a good time to come and make the Congress of Reps what it should be, a forum for the entire Community.

If, due to personal grievances, you find that you cannot bring yourself to attend an IFGE affair, then perhaps we can hold a meeting of the Community's leadership in a neutral spot. The location, after all, is unimportant. Who sponsors this gathering is unimportant. What is important, what is critical, is that somewhere, somehow, those who claim that they are the leaders of our Community come together, sit down together, and talk with open hearts and open minds.

Some will call me a fool. Perhaps I am. Perhaps I am a fool for speaking out like this. But, I think not. If there is any truth in what I said, those of you who have the good of the Community in your heart will find some of that truth and, perhaps, a little merit in what I have said. If you do, please, talk to me, talk to others, and let's start doing something, together, to make this Community a real community.

Thank you for your time.

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Bulletins, Notices & News

SOME NOTES ON THE REFERENCE SECTION AND THE PERSONAL LISTINGS

People ask in a mystified way how, or if, the references are "sorted" in the Reference Section. The answer is by ZIP code. Our thought here is that anyone using the Reference Section wants to find resources within a reasonable distance. Listing in order by ZIP code pretty much makes contiguous states appear contiguously. Thus, all the resources within easy access to a certain location might fall on the same page.

Forget the alphabet. Put your consciousness in the hands of the Post Office. Let your fingers do the walking, and find all you need in a two-hour drive, or only one area code away.

The biggest problem with the Personal Listings is keeping a growing thing within a fixed amount of space. We have used a variety of tools to this end: smaller type, changing the ad structure, and editing the copy among them. As the total number of listings continues to grow, we have been forced to change the word limit from 70 to 50 words.

From the point of view of those who list in the Personal Section, results are what count. If your listing is not keeping your mail box full, compare your ad to those you would or have written to. Is your ad an "up" or a "down"? Does it describe an interesting, exciting person who sounds like s/he would be fun to correspond with, or does it describe someone who is lonely, confused, and looking for help? Your Personal Listing is an advertisement for yourself. In order for it to work, it must show your best features in an attractive manner. Some Listings draw well over a hundred letters a year. Those Listings are not the longest, nor are they the ones with the most activities and associations listed. They are the ones that make the reader say, "Yes, I really want to write this person!" And when they get the letter, those people promptly write back, and friendships form and grow. To those who say that the Personal Listings don't work, I reply that some of them work quite well. If yours doesn't, check it out to see why not. A little rewriting might bring you a pleasant surprise.

You should also bear in mind that *Tapestry* is like any other magazine, many different people read it, some will Xerox pages and send them to others, articles will get reprinted with or without expressed authorisation. Once someone buys a copy, we have no way of controlling where that copy goes, or what happens to the information in it. That is one of the reasons we do not print home addresses in the Personal Listings.

The Boulton and Park Society
Fifth Annual

Texas 'T' Party
"Tea for Two"

February 26th - 28th, 1993
in San Antonio, Texas

A fun weekend for cross-dressers, their families and friends

Come for:

- *a weekend to dress with the girls*
- *the Texas sun and warm weather*
- *the activities, the outings*
- *meet friends, new and old*

write to: **Texas 'T' Party**
P.O. Box 700042
San Antonio, TX 78270

or call: **(512) 545-3668**
(Wednesdays 7:00pm - 9:30pm CT)

There are good, bad, and indifferent magazines in and around the gender community. Some of them are honorable and behave honorably. Others do not. When we learn that material from *Tapestry* has been reprinted illegally and/or inappropriately, we make every effort to get them to cease and desist. But, the damage has already been done. For this reason it is a good idea for people listing themselves in the Personal Section to use a little circumspection.

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AEGIS ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY ADVISORY BOARD

AEGIS - P O Box 33724, Decatur GA 30033

We are proud to announce the formation of an interdisciplinary advisory board consisting of 28 women and men who are prominent in their respective fields, and who are dedicated to the study and welfare of transgendered persons.

The advisory board will give advice and suggestions about important and controversial issues and will serve a steering function for AEGIS. The entire board will be polled several times a year, and individual board members will be contacted as needed for input about their specialty areas. The board will provide advice and feedback about various AEGIS products and services and will suggest projects and areas of concentration.

The board's credentials are impressive. There are nine physicians, seven Ph.D.s (one is in progress), two R.N.s, one Jd.S., and at least two M.A.s. Board members are prominent in a variety of organizations, including the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons, the American Psychiatric Association, the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex, the American Association for Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT), the Renaissance Educational Association, the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE), the Ingersoll Center, and the Society for the Second Self (Tri-Ess). More than half the board members have written books, and many have published papers about gender dysphoria in peer-reviewed scientific journals. We are fortunate to have been able to assemble such a fine and distinguished group of advisors.

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Social Support Group For Crossdressers
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L5A 3A1

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REPARTEE
– FAST ESTABLISHED AS THE BEST TV MAGAZINE IN BRITAIN – NOW AVAILABLE ON DIRECT SUBSCRIPTION WORLDWIDE

Repartee is a fun magazine which encourages the view that transvestism is something positive to be enjoyed, presenting a good balanced view of all aspects of cross-dressing, including the more exotic and erotic aspects such as fetishism.

Each quarterly issue is packed full of –
– interesting, informative & entertaining features
– stories – practical help and advice – reviews
– news, what's on and reports on social events
– readers' letters and contact adverts

Repartee is renowned for its excellent standard of presentation with lots of photos (some in full colour) and many illustrations.

Please send $10 for sample copy and full details to:

Rose's (TP1), P.O. Box 339, Sheffield S1 3SX, ENGLAND

LATEST HIV DATA JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY
DAILY REPORTS ON AMSTERDAM AIDS CONFERENCE
AVAILABLE ON COMPUTER NETWORK (*SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S GAY NEWSPAPER, UPDATE,* ISSUE 551)

When *Update* editor Pat Burke mentioned that his recent illness was caused by a rare virus, Norman Brown typed Burke's account of his illness into his computer. By the next day people in Canada and Europe had read the article and were sending back accounts of their own experience with kidney failure. A number of them shared a common concern that it might somehow be related to HIV.

The speedy world-wide link-up was made possible by the computer bulletin network created by Sister Mary Elizabeth of San Juan Capistrano, a full-time nun and also a full-time AIDS activist. She is an early riser and, after doing her morning devotions, she plays Sherlock Holmes by sniffing around the national electronic bulletin boards for every shred of AIDS information she can locate to ad to her ever-growing electronic library of AIDS information.

Mary Elizabeth is a member of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, an Anglican/Catholic order in the Franciscan tradition. It was during a church service while she was on an assignment in a small town in Missouri last year tending the herd of cattle her order had inherited that she recognized the need for computerized information on HIV and AIDS. The town she was in had but one doctor who was seeing patients once a week, and the local newspaper's AIDS coverage was meager. She met with many people who were desperate for information.

"People could not get their hands on even the basic AIDS information," she said.

Her bulletin board is called the HIV/AIDS Info BBS and contains an AIDS-related database which is provided as an adjunct to world-wide electronic conferences. The database can be read on line or the files downloaded for later reading off line.

On-line electronic conferences or "electronic town halls" enable people with AIDS (PWAs), researchers, health care professionals, medical doctors, and others to conference or post questions or information on AIDS-related topics at any time of the day or night.

Last year a woman in Arizona kept users up to date about an AIDS patient in the Arizona prison system who had difficulty receiving treatment. His death, in prison, later in the year set off a volley of messages among users expressing their sorrow upon the loss of a "family" member.

This year Sr. Mary Elizabeth was instrumental (together with Paul Melstrom of Phoenix, Steve Brown of Seattle, and Norman Brown of San Diego) in the formation of the AEGIS (AIDS Education General Information System) Network which links dedicated AIDS electronic bulletin boards globally and encourages community-based organizations and individuals to work together. Her BBS acts as a central distribution hub for AEGIS.

Anyone with access to a computer (personal, portable, or mainframe) with a modem, communications software, and a phone can access AEGIS or the HIV/AIDS Info.

For general information and regulation for PC Pursuit call 1-800-736-1130. To log onto HIV/AIDS Info BBS set your modem to 8-N-1, full duplex, and dial (714) 248-2836. For more information about these services call Norman at (619) 563-0569.

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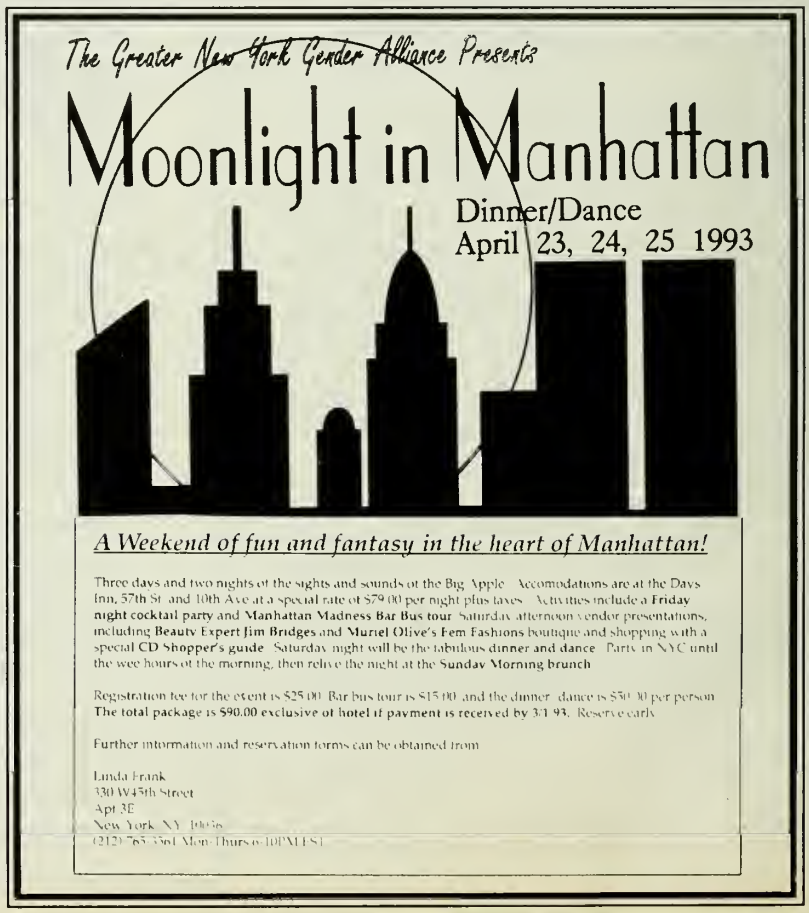

TEXAS T PARTY,
FEBRUARY 26-28, 1993
IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

P O Box 700042, San Antonio TX 78270

Don't be the "Lone Ranger"! Saddle up Silver and Scout (side-saddle of course), bring "Tonta" (as in the feminine version of "Tonto") along, and head on down the trail to old San Antonio for THE TEXAS T PARTY! This is BIG number five and we'll guarantee you'll love it! Lots of folks said they missed the old "stompin' grounds" of the Seven Oaks Hotel and the good news is that we're goin' back in '93! For those who have never been to the hotel, it's small enough to be intimate and large enough to accommodate us. We'll probably "take over" the hotel and there won't be very many "ordinary" folks around the campfire.

So with a hearty "Hi-ho Silver" and "Gettum up Scout" join all your friends for the one and only Texas 'T' Party!

The "Tea for Two"

Yes, ladies, we're going to have a REAL, genuine, Texas Tea Party in 1993 (definitely not the eighteenth-century —Bostonian version—no rampaging fake Indians, please)! We've dug into the Texas T Party archives and found a description of a "Tea Party" there. In the tradition of the proper English lady, the tea party is an event to dress in one's finery, to see others and to be seen, and to socialize with one's friends. This is the spirit of our event

So, grab your crayon and block out your social calendar for February 26-28, 1993! Don't forget to tell your boss when you're taking a break from the grindstone too. Then bring your real "boss" to enjoy seeing your friends and being seen at the Texas T Party - "Tea for Two" in 1993!

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The Boulton and Park Society
P.O. Box 700042
San Antonio, Texas 78270
Help-Line: (512) 545-3668

- *A non-profit Texas corporation dedicated to transgender education, information, assistance, and peer support*
- *Monthly newsletter,* ***Gender EUPHORIA***
- *Sponsor of the annual* ***Texas 'T' Party*** *convention for transgendered persons and their spouses/partners*
- *Spouse/partner of transgendered support through WATS group*

AN OPEN LETTER TO *TAPESTRY* READERS

Thank you so much for including my letter of request in the last *Tapestry* mailing. From your kindness I have received a large number of names and addresses of health care professionals. Most were sent to me from members of the community who have had very successful care from these professionals. Other letters came from health care professionals themselves who wanted referrals from IFGE in the future. My deep gratitude to all of these respondents.

I am now beginning the process of listing these professionals for ready access, and I will also contact each one directly to give information to them about our referral system. It will be private, secure and carefully maintained for the good of both the client or patient and the professional.

The referral system, however, will be ongoing and will always need additions and subtractions. I ask that all who have information about health care professionals continue to forward that data to me. Our goal will always be to put the "best with the best."

Thank you again for your support and your interest.

Most sincerely,

Sheila Kirk, MD
Medical Director

A CALL FOR HELP FROM THE NORTH WEST GENDER ALLIANCE

Portland, OR, the City of Roses, has been a special place of peaceful tolerance for alternative lifestyles. This fun, safe place to crossdress and be yourself may be wiped away at the drop of a ballot if you don't help the NWGA defeat the infamous Measure 9 which was proposed by the Oregon Citizens' Alliance (OCA).

Ballot Measure 9 would amend the Oregon Constitution to declare that homosexuality is "abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse" and would, among other things, require that the public schools teach such antiquated, wrongheaded bigotry as fact. In requiring that the state and local government do nothing "to promote, encourage or facilitate homosexuality," there is no end to the mischief these hatemonger can commit. For instance, many expect that the Oregon Liquor Control Commission would be prohibited from issuing a license to a gay bar by this amendment. The gist of legalized abuse would go on almost endlessly.

While this measure does not especially mention crossdressing, the OCA's publications make it clear they do not make the distinction between heterosexual crossdressers and homosexuals. If Measure 9 passes, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to hold the 1994 IFGE Convention in Portland because no business would want to risk losing their business licensing for having served us. Even if the courts ultimately do make the distinction between crossdressing and homosexuality, there seems little question that crossdressers are next on the OCA's hit list. Whether or not legal sanctions are imposed against our hobby, Measure 9 can only feed the fires of intolerance that are burning in this nation and threaten the safety and dignity of all of us.

The North West Gender Alliance is treating this threat as an opportunity. An opportunity to strike a blow against ignorance, bigotry and intolerance. They have donated $225 to the No on 9 Campaign. They also endorsed the campaign so NWGA's name will be listed in the State of Oregon's Voter's Pamphlet as opposing Measure 9. In addition the members are volunteering their time to the campaign and donating their money.

The OCA is not just a lunatic fringe that will dry up and blow away. Already the OCA has met with national political leaders, including US Senator Phil Gramm, in Washington, DC. They have been steadily growing in numbers and power, but now is your chance to knock them back into the sewer they crawled out of. Now is your chance to keep them from moving into your state as well.

Recently, a number of prominent stars and directors from Hollywood, California sponsored a benefit to raise money and awareness against Measure 9. The NWGA is requesting you do likewise with a cash donation to the No on 9 Campaign. Your check should be sent to: No on 9 Campaign, c/0 NWGA, PO Box 4928,

Portland OR 97208 so NWGA can make the No on 9 Campaign aware of the aid they are receiving from the crossdressing community.

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THE 2ND (YES, SECOND) INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSGENDER LAW AND EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

The first is over. It was a success. Those who attended, both lawyers and laypersons, felt empowered. It was preserved both in a written and an audio proceedings format. If you want to "attend" the 1st Conference via Proceedings, send $40 (check to GCTC) to Phyllis Frye, Attorney, 5707 Firenza Street, Houston, TX 77035-5515, USA.

THE SECOND (YES, 2ND) CONFERENCE WILL BE THURSDAY THE 26TH THROUGH SATURDAY THE 28TH OF AUGUST 1993, IN HOUSTON, TEXAS USA, AT THE HILTON SOUTHWEST.

Three regional planning meetings:

07-08 November 1992, Springfield MA area
Contact Attorney Maria Aspen
1101 Woodside Parkway
Silver Springs, MD 20910, USA.

27-28 February 1993, San Antonio Texas area during the Texas T-Party.
Contact Attorney Phyllis Frye
(at above address).

24-25 April 1993, Denver Colorado area.
Contact Attorney Laura Smiley
3551 South Monaco Street #220
Denver, CO 80237, USA.

Purposes of regional planning meetings:

-to attract and involve more attorneys from our transgender community;
-to develop and publish by subscription a quarterly transgender law newsletter;
-to place the 1st Proceedings into as many law schools and legislators' hands as we can;
-to determine other areas of law and government policy where legal strategies are needed;
-to attract and deliver a variety of 2nd Conference guest speakers; and
-to bring in more 2nd Conference participants from outside of the United States.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL ELAINE BARRIE PROJECT ANNUAL AWARDS, 1992

On Saturday, 27th, of June, 1992 the Elaine Barrie Project of Australia held its sixth Annual Awards Night. This is an event which is growing in popularity with each passing year. When interviewed Elaine Barrie said "When I started the Awards Night way back in 1985 I never dreamed that it would grow to the extent that it has. On the occasion of the first Awards night there was a single presentation. It was made to Professor W.A. Walters, formerly of the sex reassignment unit at the Queen Victoria Hospital in Melbourne. I find it to be quite incredible that tonight we have seven awards on the program.

1/ The annual International E.B.P. Award of the Year, 1992, was presented in absentia to television personality, Phil Donahue of the "Donahue Show" which is seen daily on Channel Ten in Melbourne. Donahue received the award for his tolerance, sympathetic and understanding attitude to all of the many transpersons who appeared on his show 1991 - 92.

2/ The annual National Award of the year, 1992, was presented to E.B.P. member, Pamela Johnson in recognition of her willingness to be always at the ready to help out whenever called upon. She has interviewed many prospective members of the E.B.P. in her own home and has helped and advised whenever required. She is a most worthy recipient of the award Congratulations Pamela.

3/ The national Literary award 1992, went to well known writer and author, Claire Stafford of Warmambool, Victoria. In addition to being "under contract" to NU-SCENE, Claire also writes for many other trans publications and in 1991 was made "Australian Editor" of the well known and highly acclaimed American Publication, "*Tapestry*."

4/ The International Literary Award for 1992. This goes to English writer, Sarah Wood and Sarah receives our "golden pen Award" along with the literary certificate. She is well-known to readers of NU-SCENE for her many articles and stories over the past year or two. For personal reasons she has now decided to adopt the pen name of Tera Fernough and all future references to Sarah will be made under that nom de plum.

5/ An entirely new award - it is the Elaine Barrie perpetual Trophy which will be presented annually as an encouragement incentive for all trans organisations to aim for improving their services to transpersons. The perpetual trophy will only be held in trust by any organisation for a period of twelve months, after which it will go to another organisation. All winners will receive a certificate which they shall retain.

The first winner of the Elaine Barrie Perpetual Trophy is the Flamingo Association of New South Wales, Australia. President, Robin West, accepted the presentation on behalf of the Flamingo Association

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CROSS-TALK
The Transgendered Community's Newsletter
ONE YEAR (12 ISSUES)
$24.00
TWO YEARS (24 ISSUES)
$42.00
OR SEND $2.00 FOR A SAMPLE COPY TO:
P.O. Box 944
Woodland Hills, CA 91365

DIGNITY CRUISE IV

SAILING ON THE NORDIC EMPRESS TO THE BAHAMAS

c/o Dr. Peggy Rudd, 1811 Crutchfield, Katy TX 77449

How many times have you wished to escape into a world of fantasy: a world of beauty and splendor? Have you ever wished to dine in a formal room where you can savor a delicious seven course meal while wearing your most feminine attire? How many times have you wished to experience elegance in every waking hour? Or perhaps you have wondered just how much "lady luck" would smile down upon you if you played blackjack, roulette, poker, or craps in your most elegant, formal gown.

Once again you will have the opportunity to sail with dignity on May 20-24, 1993 to the Bahamas on the beautiful Nordic Empress.

Early booking is important, because the paper track required to make this cruise so special takes about 45 days within the offices of Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. This year some people were disappointed when they found that reservations were closed six weeks before sailing. So don't delay. Send a deposit of $100 to our travel agent, Anne of CRUISE AHOY, 11211 KATY FREEWAY,#300, HOUSTON, TEXAS, 77079.

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IT'S TIME, MINNESOTA SEXUAL OR AFFECTIONAL ORIENTATION AMENDMENT

'Sexual or affectional orientation' means having or being perceived as having as emotional, physical or sexual attachment to another person without regard to the sex of that person, or having or being perceived as having an orientation for such attachment, or having or being perceived as having a self-image or identity not traditionally associated with one's biological maleness or one's biological femaleness."

This definition of sexual or affectional orientation, as recommended by the Governor's Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Minnesotans, was unanimously endorsed by activists and representatives from all around Minnesota who are involved in the effort to win statewide human rights.

Passage of this amendment would provide us (all of us-gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and straight) with equal treatment under state law along with others who could be discriminated against due to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, or familial status.

Passage of this amendment would prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, educational institutions, selling or leasing property, credit, practice of a trade or business, or the provision of a service.

GET INVOLVED
FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHTS
IT'S TIME, MINNESOTA!

Call Mary Jean Mulherin at the Gay and Lesbian Community Action Council. In the Metro Area call, 822-0127, in Greater Minnesota, 1-800-800-0350

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ATTENTION MEMBERS AND FORMER MEMBERS OF NYGA:

Effective on June 8, 1992, Muriel Olive has turned all of the records and membership of the New York Gender Alliance over to CrossDressers International. If you are or were a member of the NYGA, you are now invited to attend the functions of CDI.

If you have not been active in our community, then we encourage you to come to one of our meetings on Thursdays at Sally's II at 252 W. 43rd St. and join in the fun. We certainly would like to talk to you and meet you.

CROSSDRESSERS INTERNATIONAL
P O Box 61
Easton PA 18044

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GENDER ALTERNATIVES LEAGUE CLOSES

In a letter to IFGE, Carolyn Williams, Executive Vice President of the Gender Alternatives League explained that the GAL's Board of Directors had voted to close operations. She pointed out that in part this was due to a lack of financial support for the group. She also remarked on the factionalism within the gender community, and how that made it difficult to bring people together to work to a common purpose.

TRANSSEXUALISM DECLARED HANDICAP BY FLORIDA COMMISSION

from *The Mercury* newspaper

The Florida Commission on Human Rights has ruled that a male jail guard who was fired for dressing like a woman was the target of discrimination based on a disability — transsexualism.

The board ruled 8-1 Thursday that Belinda Smith, formerly Lt. William Smith, was the victim of handicap discrimination and shouldn't have been fired by the Jacksonville sheriff's office in 1985.

"Transsexualism is a recognized disorder and, in my opinion . . . we have to find it's a handicap," said Judith Kavanaugh, one of the commissioners.

The 43-year-old Smith was a 14-year veteran of the department. He was fired after being seen off the job in women's clothing and outlining plans to undergo a sex-change operation, with the prerequisite of dressing as a woman for two years before surgery.

"This is excellent. This is as strong a ruling as we could have gotten in our favor," Smith said.

Sam Jacobson, Smith's lawyer, said the ruling breaks new ground. "Under a handicap law, this is the first one. I think it's a case that is going to make the world a more comfortable place for people with this trait," he said.

Transsexuals have been granted protection in Washington state as well. In Seattle, a state appeals court ruled Monday that Boeing Co. discriminated against a transsexual fired for wearing a pink pearl necklace to work.

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JURY STILL OUT ON WHETHER TRANSSEXUALS ARE WELCOME AT MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 26, 1992
Womyn For Womyn
584 Castro, suite 288
San Francisco, CA 94114
Boston - (508)386-7737
San Francisco - (415)863-6717

Walhalla, MI - Womyn attending the 17th annual Michigan Womyn's Music Festival (MWMF) were challenged to think about a subject some had never considered before, and they rose to the occasion beautifully. The issue was gender: whether transsexuals should be excluded from the Festival, how to enforce such a policy, and who decides. "I was impressed: festigoers were willing to give this matter serious thought, to share their confusion and their feelings about it, and to be educated about transsexualism," said Janis Walworth, one of several womyn at the Festival trying to promote discussion about the policy that excludes non "womyn-born-womyn."

Many womyn were shocked to learn that Nancy Burkholder, a transsexual woman, had been expelled from MWMF last summer for no reason other than suspicion of being a transsexual. Burkholder, who had had male-to-female genital surgery eight years earlier, participated in the awareness effort at this year's Festival by contributing her account of the incident and an open letter to Festival producers. Burkholder says she would not have attended last year or in 1990 (which she attended without incident) had she known about the transsexual policy, and she did not come this year.

Popular among festigoers this year were buttons from Womyn For Womyn, a California-based group, which queried, "Where's Nancy?" Walworth, a friend of Nancy's, offered two workshops to discuss the Festival policy; two other workshops on similar topics were offered by two other womyn.

Walworth said, "I'm concerned not only with the question of whether transsexual womyn should be officially included at Michigan, but also with the nature of the Festival policy. The policy is vague. It doesn't spell out exactly who is excluded and it is not stated clearly in Festival literature." This year, for the first time, the Festival brochure stated in fine print that, "MWMF is a gathering of mothers and daughters for all womyn born womyn." "I discussed this statement with many Festival participants, and there were several interpretations of it," said Walworth. Some womyn thought it referred to the fact that they were born of womyn-their mothers. Others felt, as Simone de Beauvoir put it, "One is not born a woman, one becomes one." Many male-to-female transsexuals consider themselves womyn-born womyn because they have felt female from birth.

A survey done at this year's Festival revealed that womyn on both sides of the transsexual inclusion question want a clear statement of Festival policy to be promulgated and uniformly enforced. Transsexuals like Burkholder have a right to know what the policy is before traveling hundreds of miles to the Festival. All attendees have a right to know what policies they are supporting by coming to MWMF.

The survey, filled out by 633 of the approximately 7500 participants in this year's Festival, showed that an overwhelming 73%, favor the inclusion of male-to-female transsexuals after they have had surgery. Inclusion was opposed by 23%. 4% were undecided. "These results must be taken in context," says Walworth. "This was certainly not a random sample. Many womyn who favor transsexual inclusion did not come to the Festival this year in a gesture of protest. On the other hand, some womyn against inclusion may have been reluctant to fill out surveys." Efforts are currently underway to sample opinion in the womyn's community outside MWMF. An independent petition circulated at the Festival to change Festival policy to include transsexual womyn without penises collected 200 signatures.

Davina Anne Gabriel, a male-to-female transsexual who underwent sex reassignment surgery in 1978, attended the Festival this year despite the antitranssexual policy. Asked if she thought her presence there was disrespectful of womyn-only space, Gabriel replied, "I feel that as a womon I belong here." She also quoted Alix Dobkin as saying in her workshop on Issues in Lesbian Community, "It's the responsibility of each of us to make a place for ourselves in the community. We have to show up and say, 'I'm here-deal with me.' You declare yourself a part, and you are a part, and the only way to do that is to keep coming back."

"Another problem with the Festival policy is that it is impossible to enforce fairly," says Walworth. "There is no sure way to tell a transsexual from a nontranssexual woman, except through medical records. In fact, a nontranssexual woman can't prove she's not a transsexual without undergoing expensive medical tests!" Unfortunately, MWMF producers have failed to provide guidelines for the enforcement of this policy, apparently leaving it up to individual security womyn. One womon doing a shift as a security worker asked her supervisor what to do if she saw a transsexual and was told, "You could do whatever you want, actually." Her comment to this reporter was, "Security guards aren't being given any direction on what to do. It's all up to individual discretion. That's my impression from working as a security guard." When Gabriel revealed herself to be a transsexual at a workshop on Sunday, a security worker who was

(*continued*)

there told her, "I wouldn't be comfortable throwing you out." Gabriel had been participating in the festival since Wednesday without incident. Despite publicly coming out twice on Sunday, Gabriel was not ejected.

A survey question about how MWMF security should determine who is transsexual elicited a range of responses: interviews, questionnaires, medical certificates, genetic tests, drivers' licenses, genital inspections, a friend's voucher, intuition, and just asking. The sentiment of many was summed up by a woman who wrote, "Hell if I know." Most survey respondents, however, felt it was unnecessary to make a distinction between transsexual and nontranssexual womyn because they favored transsexual inclusion.

Walworth also expressed concern about the process by which policies are made at the Festival, which she says has not been made clear to festigoers. "Are decisions made in dictatorial fashion by Festival producers? Are policies the result of consensus among Festival workers? Does the opinion of participants influence policy? Who decides what procedure is followed for each policy?"

Even allowing for a margin of error, survey results strongly suggest that the majority of MWMF participants favor the inclusion of male-to-female transsexuals after surgery. "My sense is that most womyn would be comfortable with a no-penis policy (except for young boys)," says Walworth. "Such a policy can be clearly stated and is amenable to uniform enforcement." "It will be interesting to see whether Festival producers will be responsive to these findings," says Burkholder, who has had difficulty engaging MWMF organizers in discussion about her expulsion last summer.

From the Night Stage, Toshi Reagon stated, "Just because we talked about something ten years ago or twelve years ago or fifteen years ago does not mean that we're supposed to quit talking about it now. If the issue keeps coming up, it means that it's not settled, and we have to keep discussing the issue." This is one issue that is certainly not settled. Womyn from all across the country were moved to write literature, offer workshops, make buttons, collect surveys, and contribute in many other ways to the effort to enhance awareness about transsexuals and Festival policy. Says Walworth, "Womyn on both sides of the inclusion question thanked us for focusing attention on the issue and for promoting meaningful discussion about it."

Reprints of literature disseminated at the Festival, including the complete set of 24 Gender Myths, can be obtained by writing to Janis Walworth, P O Box 52, Ashby, MA 01431. Also available are survey forms that can be completed and returned. A more complete report of the survey results obtained at MWMF will be available soon.

The
Ultimate Feminine Performance!

Miss Continental Pageant

For the first time ever we are pleased to offer TVTS readers an exclusive view of the premiere event for transvestites, transsexuals, and female impersonators, the world famous "Miss Continental Pageant". The **Highlights** tape shows the introduction of contestants, swimwear parade, evening gown competition, talent highlights and announcement of the winner. The **Talent** tape shows the complete talent act of all 10 semi-finalists. Each tape is $49.95 plus $3 for UPS. Order by check, Mastercard, or Visa from: MEN, Dept "T" One United Nations Plaza, San Francisco, CA 94102. Residents of California add 6.5% tax.

MEN MALE ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK

TRANSGENDER RESEARCH PROJECTUPDATE

from *Gender Euphoria*, vol VI, 8, August 1992, published by the Boulton & Park Society, P O Box 700042, San Antonio TX 78280

The good news is that we received over 750 usable responses to our questionnaire as of the middle of July! This is fantastic! And we believe that our goal of 1000 responses is definitely attainable (in fact we should be able to exceed that by a good margin if we work at it a little harder). We know other folks are continuing to distribute the survey--please keep it up! The bad news is that the number of responses we're receiving each day is tapering off, so we do need to renew our efforts to try to get the survey to as many people as possible.

In addition to publishing a formal paper on the subject of transgendered behavior, we believe that a longer-term project of putting together a more complete, book-length document (or an actual book) will be possible as well. Not only will we have a massive amount of data, but we have a lot of anecdotal information that folks have included in their survey responses. All-in-all, we will have a very good "picture" (maybe "collage" would be more appropriate) of transgendered behavior that is based in fact. With this potential project in mind, Boulton & Park is working to set aside the resources to actually publish such a document. We are also contemplating a half-hour (maybe an hour) educational video tape which carries the facts of transgendered behavior learned through the research project to a more wide-spread general audience.

Our thanks to everyone in the community who has taken the time and made the effort to distribute the survey and also to those who responded!

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NEW SUPPORT GROUP ON CAPE COD IN MASSACHUSETTS

"It's a Girl . . . It's a girl . . . It's a girl!" read the pink-lettered banner stretched across the meeting-room wall. And indeed, the sign was celebrating a birth on the first Tuesday in April. But it wasn't of a baby girl; rather of a gathering of crossdressers from Cape Cod and Southeast Massachusetts.

The group is the culmination of a three-year dream of Chrystal Raymond who named it Innvestments. It meets in a Hyannis-area inn and is obviously more than a little interested in the crossing of 'vestments.' The signs and name tags were the gifts of Candy, one of the participants.

Innvestments is designed as a support group for those in the culture within convenient range. "Some of the girls have never had an opportunity to meet with their sisters. For others, the trek to Tiffany is a long one and, as a result, they go infrequently. Innvestments will give all of them a chance to travel a short distance, or perhaps a chance for an extra night out," Chrystal said.

The group will meet on the first Tuesday of each month with the exception of July and August.

A charge for the monthly meetings will be based on the cost of the quarters and of communications. For further information write:

Innvestments
P.O. Box 2194
Orleans MA 02653

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1993 MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN, GAY & BI EQUAL RIGHTS AND LIBERATION

The 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay & Bi Equal Rights and Liberation will be on Sunday, April 25, 1993. This effort is planning on bringing one million lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people to Washington, D.C. for one of the largest civil rights demonstrations yet.

There is a proposal drafted by the transgender caucus of the March on Washington that the word transgender be added to the title of the March. If you favor such inclusion, send a post card saying, "I/We support adding the name Transgender to the title of the 1993 March on Washington," with your name, your group's name, if any, and your or its address, to:

TG CAUCUS/MOW
c/o T.L.F.
1202 East Pike Street #950
Seattle WA 98122

You could also express your support of adding transgender to the March title by writing directly to:

March on Washington
Steering Committee
P O Box 34607
Washington DC 20043

The hotline for information about the March is,
1 - (800) 832-2889.

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GREATER NEW YORK GENDER ALLIANCE PRESENTS SPRING GETAWAY WEEKEND IN NEW YORK CITY

The Greater New York Gender Alliance presents MOONLIGHT IN MANHATTAN, a weekend of fun and fantasy April 22 to 25, 1993. Yes, travel to New York, New York on Friday April 23, 1993, or come earlier if you wish. Three days and two nights you will revel in the Big Apple amid all of the sights and sounds of this exciting city. You will stay at the Days Inn, 57th St right near Central Park where you will have a luxurious room for a special rate of $79.00 per night plus taxes. Make up your own party because that is $79 per night for the room, no matter how many people are in the room. Come earlier if you want, as a special set of rooms have been booked for the GNYGA starting on Thursday, April 22, 1993. Hotel registration information and special telephone numbers are in the registration Package.

You will find Jim Bridges set up in his famous boutique, and Muriel Olive will be there with Fem Fashions. Saturday you can sleep in late or attend workshops presented by Jim, Muriel and others on make-overs, wig care and more. Make your appointments early if you want individual treatment for the evening. Many girls will find themselves on the street visiting many of the fabulous shops in Manhattan that will be listed in a special CD SHOPPERS' GUIDE that is being prepared just for this event.

The main event is a Saturday evening dinner dance MANHATTAN LIGHTS, a gala dinner dance with all of the fun and excitement that you have come to expect in New York. This event will be open to the general public as a fund raiser for our special charity, God's Will - We Deliver. This group provides food to the many AIDS victims in New York and receives very little governmental funding.

The Greater New York Gender Alliance is composed of the directors from Crossdressers International, LIFE, Metropolitan Gender Network, Tri-Ess, Girls Night Out and the Imperial Court. The co-Chairs are Dee Dee Summers from LIFE and S. Kristine James from CDI.

Reservation forms and information can be obtained from:
Linda Frank
330 W. 45th St., Apt 3E, New York NY 10036
212-765-3561 Monday through Thursday eves 6 to 10

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PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Would you like an artistic portrait of yourself that captures the person who lives inside?

Mariette Pathy Allen
author of
'Transformations: Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them'
(Photographs and interviews with crossdressers & transgenderists and their partners, children, & friends, E.P. Dutton, Inc., NYC.)
(Available through IFGE.)

Tapestry cover photographer ◆ IFGE 1991 Trinity Award Recipient
Friend & chronicler of the Gender Community since 1977,
is available to do your portrait in a private studio or on location.
Selected photographs of the community available for sale.

Call: (212) 316-2504

MONTOGOMERY INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES NEW SUPPORT GROUP

The Montgomery Institute is pleased to announce the formation of a new support group and professional referral service in Gainesville, Florida. This new Florida Chapter will be led by an expert on transsexualism from the medical community, an attorney who has been very active in dealing with transsexual affairs for many years, and a licensed psychologist who is experienced in gender therapy.

Having spent three days in Gainesville talking with these leaders, other local professionals, and several new group members, the Montgomerys are confident that this group is off to an exceptionally good start and will make a major contribution to members of the gender community in the Florida area.

This chapter is following the pattern, which the Institute has found to be so successful in Atlanta, of functioning as a full-service gender program. Relationships have already been established with a number of local professionals who are experienced in gender issues and a full network of doctors will soon be in place.

The first support group meeting is planned for August, 1992.

A screening interview will be required for each person who wishes to attend the meetings. Strict confidentiality will be maintained.

Further information about the Florida Chapter of the Montgomery Institute may by writing to P O Box 141133, Gainesville, FL 32614, or by calling (904) 462-4826 in the evening.

The Institute also maintains a local information service in Augusta, Georgia, which may be reached at P. 0. Box 6553, Augusta, GA 30916.

Those in other areas seeking information may write the main office of the Montgomery Institute at P. 0. Box 33311, Decatur, GA 30033 or call (404) 603-9426 between 11:00 am and 11:00 pm, Monday through Saturday.

MOONLIGHT in MANHATTAN

Rooms are reserved at the Day's Inn, 57th Street near Central Park, for only $79 per night, for one or more in the room. Get-together Thursday night, Registration starts at 10am Friday. There will be a party from 7-10pm Friday followed by a bus tour, with stops to visit various bars and clubs in Manhattan. Come to the Copa, Sally's II, and more, or have fun at the hotel. There will be a dinner dance, Manhattan Lights, Saturday night to benefit God's Will - We Deliver, a group that provides food for many AIDS victims in New York. The dance will also be open to the general public.

Registration $25, bus tour $15, dinner dance $50. (You will save enough on the hotel to pay for the whole thing!) Please pay $90 before March 1, 1993. The only meal that is part of the package is Saturday's dinner. Register early as there is a limited amount of space.

Write to Linda Frank, 330 West 45th Street, Apt. 3E, New York NY 10036 for more information, and registration.

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New hours: Tues. thru Sun., 1 pm to 9 pm.

IFGE ANNOUNCES LEASE OF NEW FACILITIES

Waltham, MA 9/92: During the '92 Coming Together Convention, recently held in Houston, Texas, Naomi Owen, the 1992 recipient of the prestigious Dr. Prince Lifetime Achievement Award, presented her "wish list." Number one on her wish list was the acquisition of quality facilities for IFGE.

The International Foundation for Gender Education is proud to announce Naomi's wish has become a reality.

IFGE's magnificent new facilities consist of a newly renovated three-story building with 7,000 square feet of office space, a private parking lot for 60+ cars, and beautiful views of the famous Charles River, and the Waltham Central Park. It is conveniently located in Waltham, Massachusetts, just eight miles from downtown Boston, three miles from the Massachusetts Turnpike, one mile from I-95, and inches from mass transportation.

The first floor of the new facilities includes a classroom, a shipping and distribution office, storage, and an archives. The second floor includes a classy walk-in center, a reading library, a bookstore, and executive offices. The third floor includes offices for operations, publications, art and graphics, general work space, and a staff lounge. Responding to a question of how she felt about the new facilities, Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Executive Director of IFGE, stated, "If we were to fantasize about the perfect place for IFGE, we couldn't have dreamed up anything better than this." Yvonne Cook, IFGE Director of Operations, added, "We have only been here a month, and we have already seen a remarkable increase in productivity. We really have something of which our entire community can feel proud."

The acquisition of the facilities began last October when the IFGE board appointed a facilities search and negotiations team. This team consisted of Abby Saypen of New York City, Laura Smiley of GIC in Colorado, Joni Chrissman of CLCC in Minnesota, and Yvonne Cook. Clearly, their skill, knowledge, patience and hard work paid off.

When IFGE began its move in July, Renee Chevalier of Kansas and Roxanne De Lyon of ETVC in California took the entire month of July and part of August to lend their professional–quality carpentry and electrical skills. Assisting were Pat Quick and Delores Bryant of the Tiffany Club in Massachusetts, Maryann Kirkland of Renaissance in Pennsylvania, and Charlene Mann and Stacey Toon of Massachusetts. The move would not have been possible without their help, and IFGE is extremely grateful.

"Our facilities are open from 2 to 10 pm weekdays," Merissa added. "Please come and see us. We'd love to meet you and show off our wonderful new offices. We're located at 123 Moody Street in Waltham Massachusetts, telephone 617-894-8340. Give us a call, and come on down. You're more than welcome."

IFGE FUND RAISING COMMITTEE 1992 THIRD QUARTER REPORT

Many of you may be asking what IFGE does with your contribution, or what IFGE is doing to earn your contribution, or why IFGE needs your continued financial support. Let's take a look.

In 1990 and '91 you generously gave in excess of $116,000 to IFGE, including a $25,000 gift to the Winslow Street Fund. With approximately $85,000 in general fund contributions over a two-year period, IFGE was able to pay staff salaries, hire two additional staff persons to assist Merissa and Yvonne, buy the hardware and software necessary to improve the quality of TV/TS *Tapestry*, keep better records, publish numerous pamphlets and educational materials, reply to correspondence, etc.

On an average day, IFGE sends out 35 pieces of correspondence, answers 60 telephone calls, and responds to 40 requests for information. We answer the telephone live eight hours a day.

Contributions have enabled IFGE to develop the programs offered at the Coming Together Convention, support the New Women's Conference, support the International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy, move to new headquarters that will enable it to operate more efficiently than ever, and provide information booths at the American Psychiatric Association and at the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists 1992 conventions.

In many respects, IFGE is no different from any other 501(c)(3) educational foundation. Like all other public foundations, IFGE is dependent upon generous contributions from members and friends. Unlike most public foundations, contributions amount to less than 25% of our total budgeted revenue. In fact, 1992's budget had contributions at 12.8% of budgeted revenue. While this is a substantial improvement since 1989, when less than 2% of our revenue was from contributions, it pales in comparison to the percentage of contributions in the budgets of other educational foundations.

If IFGE is going to continue to serve the needs and demands of our community, continue to be the educational resource for our community, and continue to be a tool that makes a difference, we are going to have to do a better job of supporting it. Through August 31, 1992, general fund contributions are $21,000. Our goal is $50,000, and the minimum amount necessary to meet budget is $35,000.

Thus we must raise $14,000 by year-end just to meet budget (pay salaries and operating expenses), and $29,000 to meet our goal. Our goals are not out of reach if all of us in or associated with our community would give something, every year, to the fullest extent of our ability. Ten $10.00 contributions equal one $100.00 contribution, ten $100.00 contributions equal one $1,000.00 contribution, etc. Each dollar is just as important as the next.

We recently mailed our annual fund raising letter and pledge card. The success of this fund raising effort is critical to IFGE's ability to continue to develop new programs, answer phone calls, respond to requests for information, publish quality educational materials, etc. In short, your contributions are critical to the success and continued growth not only of IFGE, but of our community as well.

IFGE has played an important rôle in educating loved ones, helping professionals, the general public, and making society aware of who we are and of the contributions we have made and are making to society. A strong IFGE means a strong community.

Please search your heart and give to the fullest extent of your ability. All contributions, large or small, are needed, tax deductible, and gratefully appreciated. THANK YOU!

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Smiley, Chair
IFGE FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

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CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS

If you have an event of Regional, National, or International interest, please send your information to:
IFGE Calendar, P O Box 367, Wayland MA 01778

OCTOBER, 1992

1-4: **Second Annual Southern Comfort, Atlanta GA**
Southern Comfort, P O Box 33311, Decatur GA 30033

2-4: **Sixth Annual Mardi Gras, Toronto, CANADA**
Monarch Social Club, Box 579, Agincourt, Ontario M1S 3C6 CANADA

15-18: **Fall Poconos Fantasy Festival, Poconos PA**
Fem Fashions, 9 West 31st Street, Suite 7R, New York NY 10001 (212) 629-5750

16-18: **Dressing for Pleasure, Newark NJ**
Dressing for Pleasure, Constance Enterprises, Ltd., P O Box 43079,Upper Montclair NJ 07043 (201) 746-4200

16-25: **18th Annual Fantasia Fair, Provincetown MA**
Outreach Institute, 405 Western Avenue, Suite 345, South Portland ME 04106

22-25: **10th Annual Wives Support Group Weekend, Provincetown MA**
Tiffany Club of New England, Inc.,(WSGWE), P O Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483 (508) 358-2305 (7-10pm Tues)

30-11/1 **Fifth Annual Harmony Weekend, Scarborough, ENGLAND**
Martine Rose, P O Box 339, Sheffield S1 3SX ENGLAND

NOVEMBER, 1992

11-15: **Holiday En Femme 92, Atlanta GA**
Linda Peacock, P O Box 7241, Tallahassee FL 32314-7241

19-22: **Third Annual Fall Harvest Weekend, Kansas City MO**
FALL HARVEST, P O Box 35061, Overlook Park KS 66214-5061

21-22: **Riverside Gala Weekend, Erie PA**
Erie Sisters Club, 2115 West 8th Street, Suite 261, Erie PA 16505

27-29: **Beaumont Social Weekend & Annual Conference, ENGLAND**
Janet Scott, 72, Putteridge Road, Stopsley, Luton, LU2 8HP, ENGLAND Call 0582-32936

DECEMBER,1992

JANUARY, 1993

27-2/11: **TiffanyClub 11th Annual Awards Banquet, Natick MA**
TCNE, P O Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888, (508) 358-2305 (7-10pm Tuesdays EST)

23: **ETVC Annual Cotillion, Crowning of Miss ETVC**
ETVC Cotillion Committee, P O Box 426486, San Fran. CA 94142-6486

FEBRUARY, 1993

20-24: **Mardi Gras, New York**
Bubbles Martello, 60-11 Broadway, Woodside NY 11377

26-28: **5th Annual TEXAS T PARTY 'Tea for Two,' San Antonio TX**
Texas T Party, P O Box 700042, San Antonio TX 78270-0042, (512) 545-3668 Wed., 7:00pm-9:30pm CT

MARCH, 1993

14-21: **7th Annual Coming Together Convention, Philadelphia PA**
IFGE, P O Box 367, Wayland MA 01778

18-21: **Regional Holiday En Femme, San FranciscoCA**
Tri-Ess Sorority, P O Box 194, Tulare CA 93275

TBA: **LAMBDA BALL, Pittsburgh PA**
Transpitt, Box 3214, Pittsburgh PA 15230

TBA: **6th Annual Night of 1000 Gowns, New York City**
Imperial Court of New York, c/o Ben Freeman, 200 East 16th Street, Ste2M, New York NY 10003 (212) 673-7633

APRIL, 1993

24: **Transidentitas-Tagung, Frankfurt, GERMANY**
Transidentitas, Postfach 10 10 46, W-6050 Offenbach GERMANY

24-26: **Moonlight in Manhattan, New York NY**
Ms. Lynda Frank, 330 West 45th Street, Apt 3-E, New York NY 10036 (212) 765-3561

28-5/ 2: **California Dreamin', Burbank CA**
California Dreamin', P O Box 1088, Yorba Linda CA 92686 (714) 779-9013 (before 9pm PT)

29-May 2: **Poconos Fantasy Festival, Poconos PA**
Fem Fashions, 9W 31st Street, #7R, New York NY 10001 (212) 629-5750

MAY, 1993

TBA: **Esprit 93, Port Angeles WA**
Esprit 92, P O Box 55874, Seattle WA 98115

8-16: **Euro-Fantasia, Denmark**
Jenny Sand, FPE-NE, Postboks 1968 Vika, N0125 Oslo 1, NORWAY

20-23: **Paradise in the Poconos, Poconos PA**
Creative Design Services, Box 61263, King of Prussia PA 19406 (215) 640-9449

21-24: **Dignity Cruise, Bahamas**
Peggy Rudd, 1811 Crutchfield, Katy TX 77449 (713) 347-6563

28-29: **Edinburgh FesTiVal, Edinburgh, SCOTLAND**
J. McGowan, 36 McLelland Drive, Kilmarnock KA1 1SE SCOTLAND

JUNE, 1993

1-7: **13th Annual Tiffany Club Spring Fling, Provincetown MA**
TCNE, P O Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483 (508) 358-2305 (7-10pm Tuesdays EST)

9-13: **11th Annual Be All You Want To Be, Chicago IL**
Naomi Owen, Be All Weekend, P O Box 342, Chicago IL 60690 (708) 364-9514

JULY, 1993

TBA: **Wives/Partners Convention, Dallas Texas**
Cynthia Phillips, P O Box 17, Bulverde TX 78163

AUGUST, 1993

26-28: **2nd Annual International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy**
GCTC, P.O. Box 90335, Houston TX 77090

SEPTEMBER, 1993

16-19: **Paradise in the Poconos, PA**
Creative Design Services, P O Box 61263, King of Prussia PA 19406

The INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION for GENDER EDUCATION CONTRIBUTIONS

POLICY:

Contributions are an important source of revenue to IFGE. These funds enable IFGE to provide the necessary human and capital resources to serve the needs of our community. IFGE does not benefit from government, public, or United Way monies. It is entirely supported by revenue generated from the sale of publications, programs, and contributions.

All contributions are tax deductible, with receipt gratefully acknowledged, and kept totally confidential if the donor so desires. The contribution may be designated by the donor to any of the four funds described below, or be used for a specified purpose (such as a scholarship, or research grant). IFGE accepts cash, checks, Visa/MasterCard, or stock or bond assignments.

Remembering IFGE in your estate planning, will, or trust is a loving gesture which will permit us to build a significant trust fund to meet our community's needs for the next decade and beyond.

Living Memorials:

Living memorials are sent to I.F.G.E. in memory of departed sisters, brothers, family members, and friends. Some memorials and contributions become a part of the permanent Foundation Trust Fund. Other memorials are given to a specified fund. I.F.G.E. wishes to express its heartfelt thanks to the individuals, families, and organizations who saw fit to remember their loved ones with a contribution to I.F.G.E.'s memorial Funds. These contributions will provide a lasting memorial to the memory of these friends and members of our community.

The Winslow Street Fund:

This fund has been established to provide a strong and permanent financial base. Only the income generated by this fund are used. Contributions to this fund are living contributions.

The Christine Jorgensen Fund:

This fund has been established to assist in the implementation of transsexual education objectives and to address other transsexual issues.

The IFGE Programs Fund:

This fund has been established to assist in the development and presentation of programs such as the international convention, conferences, workshops, seminars, and public speaking engagements.

The IFGE General Fund:

This fund has been established to assist with miscellaneous funding needs. These needs include but are not limited to maintaining an office, a staff, purchasing and maintaining capital equipment, assisting IFGE committee projects such as educational resources and marketing, and improving communications with and support of our community's organizations and services.

The Christine Jorgensen Fund

The Winslow Street Fund

I.F.G.E. acknowledges the following contributors:

Sheryl Rhoads
Jackie Reynolds
Crossport
H. Boswell

Contributing in moving the office

I.F.G.E. acknowledges the following special contributors:

IFGE Staff
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Charlene Mann
special guest appearance
Maryann Kirkland (Renaissance)

I.F.G.E. wishes to thank those persons who have substantially contributed to its general operations. I.F.G.E. gratefully acknowledges the following members of the **"500 CLUB"** (accumulated gifts of $500.00 or more), members of the **"1000 CLUB"** (accumulated gifts of $1000.00 or more), members of the **"2500 CLUB"** (accumulated gifts of $2500.00 or more), members of the **"5000 CLUB"** (accumulated gifts of $5000.00 or more), and **"BENEFACTORS"** (accumulated gifts of $10,000.00 or more):

"500 CLUB"

"1000 CLUB"
Evelyn J. Smith
Sheryl Rhoads

"2500 CLUB"

"GROUP CONTRIBUTION"
Crossport
Phi Epsilon Mu

DIRECTORY OF ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICES

(Updated September 1992)

(Organizations and services are sorted according to category and by zip code within each category.)

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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

PUERTO RICO

FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PUERTO RICO SISTERS: Foundation for the Advencement of Puerto Rico Sisters, Calle 2 #288, Forest Hills, Bayamon PR 00959.

Nature: Non-profit non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meets on the third Friday of each month at 6:00pm. Meeting consists of one hour topic discussion and group public activity.

Security: Write for member application and information.

MASSACHUSETTS (010-027)

SUNSHINE CLUB: Sunshine Club, c/o Roberta Steel, P O Box 149, Hadley MA 01035.

Nature: Non-sexual, non-profit social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Monthly meetings at a church in the Pioneer Valley area. Monthly newsletter.

Security: Discretion and toleration expected. Write for information.

JOURNAL OF GENDER STUDIES: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

PEOPLE SYSTEMS POTENTIAL: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

AXA: AXA, c/o Zoë Durga, P O Box 1331, W. Concord MA 01742.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others. Offers individual support, sharing of resources, open discussions, advocacy in support of civil rights for transgenderists.

Services: Weekly meetings Wednesdays at 6:00pm in Harvard Square, Cambridge, Mass. Contact for location. No dues or fees.

Security: Telephone or personal interview required.

TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE: TGA, P O Box 1331, West Concord MA 01742.

Nature: A coalition of CD, TG, TS, and drag queen organizations and individuals in the Boston area. The goal is to work together to eliminate discrimination, paranoia, and homophobia both in the alternate gender expression community and in the community at large.

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GENDER EDUCATION: I.F.G.E., Box 367, Wayland MA 01778, (617) 894-8340 FAX (617) 899-5703. Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Executive Director.

Nature: I.F.G.E. is a non-profit educational and service organization designed to serve as an effective communications medium, outreach device, and networking facility for the entire TV/TS Community and those affected by that Community.

Services: I.F.G.E. publishes the TV-TS Tapestry Journal and other publications relevant to the TV/TS theme. We sponsor the annual Coming Together convention. We serve as an international information and referral clearinghouse, speakers' bureau, and a safe, friendly "drop-in center" for emergency peer counselling and ongoing volunteer work.

TAPESTRY PUBLICATIONS: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERCICES.

ALCHEMY: Raven Kaldera, IFGE, P O Box 367, Wayland MA 01778

Nature: Support group for lovers, spouses, and significant others of Transsexuals.

Services: Meetings once or twice each month in a supportive atmosphere where we can discuss what it takes to love these very special people.

FEMINA SOCIETY OF NEW ENGLAND: Ms. C. Deering, P O Box 1873, Haverhill MA 01831.

Nature: Matriarchal society that teaches surrender to a Feminine Authority as a positive spiritual experience. Emphasis is on feminised males.

Services: Non-sexual educational programs, newsletter - Femina, the Voice of Feminine Authority, audio training cassettes, annual retreat, workshops, rituals, and networking.

Security: Elaborate application process including a waiting period during which postal studies are undertaken as a postulant.

TIFFANY CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND, Inc.: TCNE, Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483. (508) 358-2305 (answered live Tuesdays 7:00-10:00pm EST).

Nature: Tiffany is a non-profit social and educational organization for crossdressers of all kinds desiring to explore and develop their total personality for the attainment of a peace of mind. Tiffany provides support programs for the individual member, for their family, and for friends.

Services: Tiffany services and activities include the Rosebuds newsletter, operating a safe-house, and organizing "get-togethers," workshops, seminars, and beauty courses. Tiffany sponsors a formal Wives and Significant Others support group, a TS support group, parties, nights on the town, referrals, a speakers' bureau, and group outings.

Security: Attendees must meet with and be cleared by a member of Tiffany's Screening Committee, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person.

TIFFANY CLUB WIVES' SUPPORT GROUP: WSG, c/o TCNE, Inc., Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483, (508) 358-2305 (answered live Tuesdays 7:00 10:00pm EST), Edie Gallagher, President.

Nature: Affiliated with the Tiffany Club. For those in a committed relationship with members in good standing at the Tiffany Club.

Services: Monthly meetings, one-on-one support, and the TCNE Wives' Support Group Provincetown Outing weekend in October.

Security: See 'Tiffany Club.'

REFLECTIONS: No mailing address, (617) 323-6082.

Nature: Support for all parts of the gender community. Group just forming, with thoughts of providing advocacy and social support, employment referral, crisis hotline, legal/medical referral . . .

Services: Meets on the fourth Saturday of each month, 3:00-5:00pm at the Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston Street at Arlington Street, Boston.

THESEUS COUNSELING SERCICES: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

THE ADAM SOCIETY: The Adam Society, c/o Dan Riley, P O Box 367, Wayland MA 01778.

Nature: A non-profit support group for female-to-male crossdressers and transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Monthly meetings. Publishes Adam's Word.

Security: Inquire.

EAST COAST FEMALE-TO-MALE GROUP: ECFTMG, P O Box 38-3303, Cambridge MA 02238. Bet Power (413) 584-7616, Lonnie (617) 926-7691.

Nature: Support network for Female-to-Male transvestites, transgenderists, transsexuals, and their partners. Meets in the homes of members. Social activities and networking with other FTMs.

Services: Meetings are every other month on Sunday at 2 pm. Locations and dates announced in newsletter, Gender In Formation.

Security: Call Bet or Lonnie before attending a meeting. Send SASE for copy of newsletter.

DENNIS PEARNE, Ed.D., See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

OUTREACH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND REFERRAL NETWORK: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

INNVESTMENTS: Innvestments, P O Box 2194, Orleans MA 02653.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others on Cape Cod and SE MA.

Services: Social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others. Meet first Monday each month except for summer. Inquire for time and place.

Security: Inquire.

RHODE ISLAND (027-029)

NEW HAMPSHIRE (030-038)

NANCY STRAPKO, Ph.D., See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

CHESHIRE COUNSELING ASSOCIATES: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERCICES.

MAINE (038-047)

TRANSUPPORT: TranSupport, Box 17622, Portland ME 04101.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, their families, and friends.

Services: Monthly meetings. Inquire for time and place. Publishes Trans-Talk newsletter.

Security: Inquire.

HUMAN OUTREACH AND ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE (HOAC) aka Outreach Institute: HOAC, 405 Western avenue, Suite 345, South Portland ME 04106. Ariadne Kane, Director, 207-775-0858.

Nature: The Outreach Institute is a non-profit educational corporation. Outreach works primarily with Helping Professionals from the fields of Education, Guidance and Counselling, Therapy, Medicine, Law and Law Enforcement, Nursing, and Human Services.

Services: Outreach's programs include the Gender Awareness and Involvement Network (GAIN); New Visions of Gender Conferences for health care professionals; Fantasia Fair, a live-in exploration of alternative lifestyle roles; Hopeful Seminars for couples to work together; and a Speakers' Bureau.

Publications: Quarterly Journal of Gender Studies for professionals. Information packets and an annotated book catalogue are also available.

Security: Outreach Institute's programs are sophisticated and strictly non-sexual. All participants in any Outreach program are expected to act accordingly.

VERMONT (050-059)

CONNECTICUT (060-069)

CONNECTICUT OUTREACH SOCIETY: COS, P.O. Box 163, Farmington CT 06034

Nature: Non-profit and non-sexual social and educational organization for crossdressers, transvestites, transsexuals, and their supporters and significant others. Provides social and educational opportunities as well as peer support. Promotes a positive self-image for cross-gendered individuals in the community and in the media.

Services: A monthly newsletter, The Outreach News; three meetings each month. Inquire for dates and locations. Wives' Support Group and Couples' Group; education, outreach, and speakers' bureau; social get-togethers and outings; confidential membership directory with personal ads and photos.

Security: Confidentiality respected and expected. Meetings open, but membership application or recommendation of member required prior to attendance.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC OF NEW ENGLAND: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB: The XX Club, Box 387, Hartford CT 06141-0387.

Nature: The XX Club is the non-profit and non-sexual transsexual peer support group of the Gender Identity Clinic of New England. Friends and relatives are welcome.

Services: A newsletter, XX, is published bi-monthly. We meet the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 2-5pm at Christ Church Cathedral, 45 Church Street, Hartford CT (off Main Street, opposite G. Fox & Company). Meetings are usually open, sometimes there is a prearranged program. There are occasional social events. Membership $20.00/year includes a subscription to the newsletter.

Security: Persons wishing to attend are welcome as long as they have a personal interest in transsexuality, understand the nature of the group, and will respect the anonymity of those attending.

HARRIET LANE'S TV SET: P.O. Box 4002, Wallingford CT 06492 (203) 237-1968 (ask for Harriet Lane or Joanie Lassin).

Nature: Home parties for open-minded TVs, TGs, TSs, and their spouse or friends.

Services: Meetings 2nd & 4th Saturday each month. Membership $100.00 per year. Key members $250.00 (store clothes & have key between 9 a.m. - 11 pm). Information on TV activities. Newsletter.

Security: All members must dress at the clubhouse. Dressing room provided. Discretion required. Contact Harriet or Joanie for phone interview & personal meeting.

NEW JERSEY (070-088)

F_2M: F2M, address invalid at this time.

Nature: A non-profit social and support organization created by and for female-to-male transsexuals and crossdressers. "Knowledge is the key to the door of gender-reassignment. Up-to-date information is essential."

Services: Social events in the New York area, confidential contacts, a comprehensive resource directory, and a newsletter. Compiling information necessary to the F-M transition into a central database. F_2M actively solicits correspondence: questions, concerns, and all items of F-M TS information are requested.

Security: We believe that confidentiality, and often anonymity are critical issues for TSs on our mailing list. All correspondence is considered confidential.

SURVIVORS OF TRANSSEXUALITY ANONYMOUS: Jeffriana Cascone, P O Box 110, Norwood NJ 07648, (908) 721-7469, Kate; (201) 767-1422, Jeffriana.

Nature: Support group for TSs, TGs, and CDs using the twelve-step recovery program to help gender-conflicted individuals heal fron the effects of gender identity conflict. The twelve steps are adapted from Alcolholics Anonymous.

Services: Meets every Thursday night at 8:00 in Teaneck, NJ. No fees, but there is a collection within the group.

Security: We use AA's Tradition of Anonymity.

MONMOUTH/OCEAN GROUP: MONMOUTH/OCEAN GROUP, P O Box 8243, Red Bank NJ 07701.

Nature: Open support group for all gender dysphoric persons. Affiliated with Renaissance in Philadelphia, PA. See their description.

EAST COAST COUPLES NETWORK: ECCN, c/o MOTG, P O Box 8243, Red Bank NJ 07701.

Nature: Social and support group for couples where both partners are comfortable and supportive with the CD aspects of the relationship. Get-togethers will not be complaint sessions, but positive and uplifting. Discretion and privacy of course. Write for more information.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY: Northern New Jersey, Ms. Lynda Frank, P O Box 9192, Morristown NJ 07960; (201) 663-0772.

Nature: Open membership, non-sexual.

Services: Get-togethers the last Saturday of each month at various locations in northern NJ. Ms. Frank now handles the TV-related affairs of the dissolved Pine Brook, NJ chapter as well.

Security: Interview required.

THE JERSEY SHORE SYSTEM: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

RENAISSANCE-SOUTH JERSEY CHAPTER: Renaissance South Jersey, P O Box 189, Mays Landing NJ 08330. (609) 641-3782. Kara Forward, chapter leader.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social and support organization serving the gender community.

Services: Meetings the first Saturday of each month at the Atlantic Mental Health Center, Inc., 6010 Black Horse Pike, Mckee NJ. Doors open at 7:00pm.

Security: Inquire.

TRANSFORMATIONS NEWSLETTER: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

SIGMA NU RHO CHAPTER TRI-ESS: SNR, P O Box 9255, Trenton NJ 08650.

Nature: Tri-Ess is a non-profit organization exclusively for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Meets the fourth Saturday of each month.

Security: Inquire.

NEW YORK (090-149)

GENDER IDENTITY PROGRAM: Gender Identity Program, c/o Barbara Warren, Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 West 13th Street, New York NY 10014, (212) 969-0888 (answering service).

Nature: Support and counseling service for gender dysphoric individuals.

Services: Peer-to-peer counseling and facilitated open discussion for all transsexuals at the Lesbian and Gay Center.

METROPOLITAN GENDER NETWORK: 561 Hudson Street, Box 45, New York NY 10014. Message updates: (201) 794-1665 ext. 332.

Nature: Support, advocacy, and educational group for crossdressers, transsexuals, transvestites, transgenderists, androgynes, or whatever. Open to all segments of the gender community. Friends and guests welcome.

Services: Monthly meetings on the second Sunday. Newsletter City Lights, social events, lending library, resource directory, referrals. Membership $24/year.

Security: Confidentiality respected. Brief meeting registration form is sent in response to new inquiries.

METAMORPHOSIS: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

SURVIVORS OF TRANSSEXUALITY ANONYMOUS (STA): STA, c/o Barbara Warren, Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 West 13th St., New York NY 10014, answering service 212-969-0888.

Nature: A twelve-step recovery program for all gender-conflicted individuals modeled after Alcoholics Anonymous.

Services: Meets 6:30-8:00 pm on Tuesdays, and 8:30-10:00 pm on Sundays at the above address. We could arrange room and board for out of town visitors, but we do not have a place for people to stay long-term.

Security: We use AA's tradition of anonymity.

SEX INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES (SIECUS): See LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES.

CROSS DRESSERS OF NEW YORK/NYGA: CDI, 9 W. 31st St, Suite 7R, New York NY 10001. (212) 629-5750. S. Kristine James, Director, Karen Cioe, NYC Coordinator, Muriel Olive, Director.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Sponsors meetings, parties, dinners, shows, and serves the needs of all.

Security: Call or write for more information.

THE GATHERING: The Gathering, P O Box 29, New york NY 10021-0030.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual support group for primary and secondary transsexuals and other gender dysphoric persons.

Services: Meetings the first Saturday of each month. Inquire for site location. Presents programs, information, guest speakers, referrals, peer counseling, newsletter. Dues are $35 per year. Newsletter subscription is $25 for twelve issues. Members receive newsletter at no extra charge.

Security: Participation is open to all potential M-F and F-M pre- and post-operative transsexuals, friends, and relatives. Inquiry required.

EULENSPIEGEL SOCIETY: The Eulenspiegel Society, Box 2783 Grand Central Station, NYC NY 10163, (212) 477-6588.

Nature: For those with S/M and B/D fantasies. The oldest organization of its type.

Service: Frequent events specifically oriented toward the TV. Inquire for times and locations.

CHI DELTA MU OF TRI-ESS: Chi Delta Mu, P.O. Box 477, Co-op Station, Bronx NY 10475. Hot Line (201) 663-0772.

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self.'

Services: Get-togethers the 2nd Saturday of each month in either northern New Jersey or southern Westchester County, NY. Very interested in attracting wives and girl friends. We have over 75 paid members, and have been in existence over five years.

Security: Private interview with Chapter President or qualified member.

GIRL'S NIGHT OUT: G.N.O., c/o Barbara Fortune, P O Box 350369, Brooklyn NY 11235-0007. Hotline: (201) 794-1665 ext 202.

Nature: An open social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meetings are held. Publishes monthly newsletter, Lipstick and Lace.

Security: Inquire.

LONG ISLAND FEMME EXPRESSION (LIFE): LIFE, c/o Vickie Stone, P O Box 31, Hempstead NY 11551.

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others. This is also the Lambda Iota chapter of Tri-Ess.

Services/Security: Publishes the newsletter, Lifelines. See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA.

LAMBDA IOTA CHAPTER TRI-ESS: See LONG ISLAND FEMME ESPRESSION, above.

TRANSGENDERISTS' INDEPENDENCE CLUB (TGIC): TGIC, Box 13604, Albany NY 12212-3604, (518) 436-4513 (Thursdays 7-9 p.m., or leave a message and instructions for calling back).

Nature: Non-sexual group offering support to crossdressers, transsexuals, mates, and families.

Services: Two monthly parties, weekly support group raps, monthly mates'/wives' support group, bi-monthly newsletter, shopping guide, key club, and storage.

Security: We have a screening process to ensure the comfort and safety of all. You may feel sure of anonymity and our discretion.

TRANSGENDER NETWORK: Transgender Network, P.O. Box 177, Tillson NY 12486-0177.

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual, social and educational support group for TVs, TSs, and SOs. Clergy and professionals are also welcome.

Services: Meetings 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month, social outings, beauty consultants, places to shop, mail order boutiques, guest speakers and referral service.

Security: All inquiries are made through our P.O. Box. Names, addresses and phone numbers of each member are held in strict confidence. Anonymity and discretion are required to ensure privacy to all.

ANDROGENY UNLIMITED: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

EON (Expressing Our Nature): EON, 523 W Onondaga St., Syracuse NY 13204-3226.

Nature: Open support group for crossdressers, transgenderists, and transsexuals, regardless of gender identification and sexual orientation. EON provides the context for TG people to experience their own happiness, personal growth, and sense of fulfillment: peer support meetings, social occasions, and community-wide events.

Services: EON has its own

facility and offices. Meetings are the first and third Saturday and fourth Wednesday each month. The Support Group for Significant Others meets regularly. Meetings are safe and secure, providing the opportunity to explore gender identity in safety.

Security: An initial interview with a member is required for membership.

CROSSROADS OF BUFFALO: Vern, 2316 Delaware Ave. Suite-102, Buffalo NY 14216.

Nature: Non-profit support group for transsexuals and crossdressers and their partners or family.

Services: TS group meets on the fourth Sunday of the month. CD group meets on various Saturday evenings. Dues: $25.00. Monthly newsletter, Crosscurrents, subscription $15.00 per year. Single copy: $1.50.

Security: New members usually must talk to a group member.

NU PHI CHI: Nu Phi Chi, P O Box 473, Bridge Station, Niagara Falls NY 14305.

Nature: Chapter of Tri-Ess.

Services: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare CA.

ROCHESTER CD-NETWORK: CD-Network, P.O. Box 92055, Rochester NY 14692, (716) 251-2132 (24-hr. hotline and recorder).

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual support group for CDs, TSs, and their spouses. Over 50 members, mostly from upstate NY.

Services: Monthly meetings and social events in a secure, supportive and non-judgmental atmosphere. Monthly newsletter, CD News. Cooperative activities with other crossdresser groups in NY state.

Security: Newsletter sent to all members who have completed membership questionnaire. Invitation to meetings extended after screening interview, or with references from a sister organization.

PENNSYLVANIA (150-196)

PERSAD CENTER, INC.: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

TRANSPITT: TransPitt, P O Box 3214, Pittsburgh PA 15230. (412) 781-0257.

Nature: TransPitt is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization with an open membership policy.

Services: Meetings the third Saturday of each odd-numbered month. Referrals.

Security: Meeting with club officer.

TEENAGE CROSSDRESSING RESEARCH PROJECT: See RESEARCH.

ERIE SISTERS: Erie Sisters, 2115 West 8th Street, Suite 261, Erie PA 16505.

Nature: Non-sexual social support group for all CDs and friends of CDs. Good manners, taste and common sense expected.

Services: Monthly meetings, newsletter. Meetings in every even numbered month are social events held at accepting establishments. Changing room is provided.

Security: An interview with a club officer required before attending first meeting.

RENAISSANCE - LOWER SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY CHAPTER: Renaissance - LSV, Box 2122, Harrisburg PA 17105-2122. (717) 780-1LSV or (717) 780-1578. Brenda Davidson, chapter leader.

Nature: Non-profit support group for the gender community at large.

Services: Meets the first Saturday evening of each month at Cameron Cut Rate, Cameron and Market Streets, Harrisburg, PA.

Security: Inquire.

CROSSDRESSERS INTERNATIONAL: CDI, P O Box 61, Easton PA 18044. S. Kristine James, Director, Karen Cioe, NYC Coordinator.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Sponsors meetings, parties, dinners, shows, and serves the needs of all.

Security: Call or write for more information.

RENAISSANCE - GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER: Renaissance PHL, P O Box 530, Bensalem PA 19020. (215) 630-1437. Michelle Lynn, Chapter Leader.

Nature: Non-profit support group for the gender community at large.

Services: Meets the third Saturday of each month in King of Prussia, PA. Meetings start at 8:00 pm. For information, write or call above number. For TV/TS with TS Support Group, TV Rap Groups, Significant Other Support Group, monthly programs of interest, as well as socials and community activities.

RENAISSANCE - READING: Charter has been revoked by the National Board. For information, write National Secretary Susan Crane, P O Box 552, King of Prussia PA 19406.

RENAISSANCE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION: Box 60552, King of Prussia PA 19406. (215) 630-1437 (24 hrs).

Nature: Renaissance is a non-profit, non-sexual organization dedicated to the support and education of the transgendered community and the general population. It is an open group that accepts without judgement and helps individuals to grow at their own pace.

Services: For TVs and TSs. Monthly meetings with educational programs, Significant Other Support Group, Transsexual Support Group, TV rap groups, a monthly newsletter, and community activities. Call the Help Line 24 hours a day for information on the latest activities.

For professionals: Speakers' Bureau for college, university, radio, and television appearances anywhere in the US. Renaissance also publishes a series of Background Papers to help professionals and clients to understand transgender behavior.

Security: There is no screening process for prospective members. All member personal information is strictly confidential and available only to the Board of Directors.

CREATIVE DESIGN SERVICES: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

DELAWARE (197-199)

WASHINGTON, DC (200-205)

WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE ALLIANCE: c/o R. Lewis, P O Box 50724, Washington DC 20091-0724. WBA Hotline (301) 277-5475.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual education and support organization for members of the TV/TS community.

Services: Discussions, raps, special events, and referrals. Meets in Maryland on the third Saturday of each month from September through June, except December.

Security: Write or call.

MARYLAND (206-218)

JANUS/DC: Janus/DC, c/o H. Martin Malin, Ph.D., 4835 Del Ray Avenue, Bethesda MD 20814.

Nature: Transsexual support. Not to be confused with the Society of Janus, a California S/M group with chapters having similar names.

SEXOLOGY ASSOCIATES: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

THE BRIDGE CLUB: Bridge Club, c/o Michelle Gerald, P O Box 11737, Baltimore MD 21206-0337.

MY CHOICE: c/o Shana Roberts, 7 S. Broadway #1A, Baltimore MD 21231 (410) 732-4546.

Nature: We are a non-profit support group for TVs and TSs.

Services: Meetings the second Saturday of the month. Call or write for location of meetings. We usually go out socializing after meetings. Shopping, makeup and coming-out help available.

Security: Interview required before attendance of meetings.

VIRGINIA (220-246)

FEMINIQUE: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

BLACK ROSE: Black Rose, P O Box 11161, Arlington VA 22210 (301) 369-7667.

Nature: Support group for dominant-submissive relationships. Singles and crossdressers welcome.

Services: Meets Tuesday nights in Washington, DC. There is usually a guest or a topic for the evening, followed by socializing afterwards.

Security: Call or write.

DELTA CHI EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (DCEA): DCEA, P.O. Box 16036, Arlington VA 22215.

Nature: Social/support group for TVs, TSs, and their significant others.

Services: Social activities, meetings once a month. Publishes The Pinnacle newsletter.

Security: Inquiry needed.

PASSING FANCY: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

VIRGINIA'S SECRET: Virginia's Secret, P O Box 3453, Richmond VA 23242. (804) 320-

8737.

Nature: Support group for Crossdressers.

Services: Monthly meetings and monthly newsletter.

Security: Completed application, sponsoring interview before joining. Membership information is held in strictest confidence.

CENTER FOR GENDER REASSIGNMENT: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

WEST VIRGINIA (246-268)

TRANS-WV: TRANS-WV, P.O.Box 2322, Huntington WV 25724-2322.

Nature: A non-sexual social/support group for crossdressers, TSs, their spouses, and significant others.

Services: Monthly meetings the third Friday of the month. Costs of accommodations are divided among members in attendance. At our meetings we dress-up, talk, and plan. We plan to establish some form of outreach.

Security: Prospective members must meet with an officer before being told the meeting place. No member shall reveal the true name, address, phone number, or profession of any other member to anyone, except with the other member's expressed permission.

NORTH CAROLINA (270-289)

TRIAD GENDER ASSOCIATION: Triad, c/o Stephanie Dula, P O Box 78082, Greensboro NC 27427-8082.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meetings every other month, with occasional social events as well.

Security: No personal information will be released without a person's knowledge and consent. Inquire.

GDANC SUPPORT GROUP: GDANC, P O Box 721, Albemarle NC 28002, (704) 982 1028.

Nature: To help TVs, TSs, and others through the hard times by being available when you need someone to talk to.

Services: Meetings on the third Saturday of every month at a private apartment.

Security: Call or write to be interviewed.

KAPPA BETA, TRI-ESS: Kappa Beta, P.O. Box 12101, Charlotte NC 28220-2101.

Nature: Social support group for male, heterosexual crossdressers and their wives or significant others. Serving the Carolinas and Southern Virginia.

Services: Monthly meetings August to May, usually in Charlotte. Monthly newsletter, The Pink Slip, $20.00 per year.

Security: Interview with Board member. Must be eligible to join (i.e., be a current member of Tri-Ess).

CHICHIRIO, TRI-ESS: Crystal Coast Rose, P O Box 733, Bridgeton NC 28519.

Nature: See Tri-Ess, Tulare CA.

PHOENIX TRANSGENDER SUPPORT: Phoenix, P.O. Box 18332, Asheville NC 28814.

Nature: Non-profit support group for CD/TG/TS & Androgyny. Significant others are welcome.

Services: Meet every other month. Atmosphere is casual, social, but also therapeutic. Open discussions, programs, networking, & free professional referrals.

Security: Common sense screening; meeting place is confidential; mailing list for members only. Discreet.

SOUTH CAROLINA (290-299)

MID-CAROLINAS GENDER ASSOCIATION: MCGA, PO Box 3406, Rock Hill SC 29732. Sherry Lynn Capps, Director.

Nature: Open social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others. Serving the SC and Charlotte, NC area.

Services: Monthly meetings in Rock Hill, bi-monthly newsletter, occasional social functions and trips.

Security: Phone, mail, or personal interview, or membership in another organizaiton.

GEORGIA (300-319)

MONTGOMERY MEDICAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, INC. (The Augusta Chapter): Jerry, Lynn, or Tommie, P O Box 33311, Decatur GA 30033, (404) 603 9426. Contact April.

Nature: TS support group and professional services. Information distribution center for the state of Georgia.

Services: Monthly meetings, free professional referrals, speakers, training seminars, hot line, and an annual TS convention. Publications: MM & PI Monthly newsletter, Insight a quarterly magazine for and about TSs, among others.

Screening: Required of clients before becoming members. Local professionals working with our members are also screened.

AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL GENDER INFORMATION SERVICE (AEGIS): AEGIS, PO Box 33724, Decatur GA 30033-0724. Business line: (404) 939-2128. Helpline: (404) 939-0244. Ms. Dallas Denny, MA, Licensed Psychological Examiner (TN).

Nature: Professionally managed national nonprofit clearinghouse for information about gender dysphoria.

Services: Referrals to professionals and support groups, and to individuals, following the Standards of Care; case management; consulting; speakers' service. Publications: Chrysalis Quarterly, transition booklets, bibliography of gender dysphoria, and J2CP, Janus, and Erickson Foundation materials. Open to all transgendered persons. Membership of $30.00 includes subscription to Chrysalis Quarterly.

Security: All client information is kept strictly confidential.

ATLANTA GENDER EXPLORATION (AGE): AGE, PO Box 1542, Roswell GA 30077. Helpline: (404) 642-9652.

Nature: A nonprofit gender support group modeled after the Phoenix Transgender Support Group in Asheville, NC. We are non-sexual and member-operated. Membership is open to anyone with a legitimate gender concern.

Services: Meet the third Saturday of every month in a major hotel which provides an inexpensive place for members to dress or stay. Meetings are a safe and secure setting for members, their families and friends to explore and learn about their gender issues.

Security: All information is kept strictly confidential. Members and guests must be screened before attending. One-time $25 screening fee, and regular fee of $5/meeting.

THE TRANSSEXUAL VOICE: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

SIGMA EPSILON, TRI-ESS: Sigma Epsilon, P O Box 7241, Tallahassee FL 32314-7241.

Nature: Social support group for male heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others. Serving Georgia, Alabama, N. Florida, & Tennessee.

Services: Monthly meetings at established Atlanta location. Monthly newsletter $15.00/yr.

Security: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA.

FLORIDA (320-340)

SIGMA EPSILON, TRI-ESS: Sigma Epsilon, P O Box 7241, Tallahassee FL 32314-7241.

Nature: Social support group for male heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others. Serving Georgia, Alabama, N. Florida, & Tennessee.

Services: Monthly meetings at established Atlanta location. Monthly newsletter $15.00/yr.

Security: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA.

C.O.P.E. CENTER, INC.: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

GENDER INFORMATION NETWORK OF GAINESVILLE: GING, Gail Driaper, (904) 332-8178.

Nature: Non-profit social and support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Referral service for those persons whose spiritual worth is more than their sexual orientation who need professional help in the Gainesville, FL area. Quarterly meetings. Donations to defray expenses. Now a member of the United Way Referral Service of Gainesville.

Security: Potential members will be personally interviewed as to their needs.

FLORIDA CHAPTER MONTGOMERY INSTITUTE, Inc.: P O Box 141133, Gainesville FL 32164, (904) 462-4826.

Nature: Referrals to medical doctors for SRS, psychologist, electrolygist, etc. Monthly meetings. Distribution of legal/medical/social information for TSs. Post-op F-M TS offers consultation.

Services: Publication through Atlanta-basd INSIGHT.

Security: Screening through psychologist to attend group meetings.

PHI EPSILON MU/CENTRAL FLORIDA SISTERS: Phi Epsilon Mu, PO Box 3261, Winter Park FL 32790-3261.

Nature: Non-profit, non-

sexual social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Meetings 1st Saturday of each month. Monthly newsletter to members and other groups.

Security: Interview required, emphasizing good manners, common sense, and the security of all.

REALITY: Reality/GLCS, P O Box 533446, Orlando FL 32853-3446. (407) 425-4527, Dori Morrison.

Nature: A support group for persons suffering from gender dysphoria and a network to professionals.

Services: Support group meets every third Saturday of the month in Orlando. Information on professionals dealing with gender dysphoric persons is provided upon request.

Security: An informal interview is required.

FANTASIA: Fantasia, c/o GLCS, P.O. Box 533446, Orlando FL 32853-3446. Contact: Sabrina Marcus.

Nature: Social support group for all TVs & TSs.

Services: Group meets every Friday at 7:00 p.m. to discuss common problems, share experiences, and network information. Objectives include promoting the TV/TS Community through education & understanding.

Security: Interview required.

SERENITY: Serenity, P O Box 307, Hollywood FL 33022. (305) 436-9477.

Nature: Social/support group for TVs, TSs, and their significant others.

Services: Newsletter.

Security: Inquire.

CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY COUNSELING: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

ANIMAS: Animas, P O Box 420309, Miami FL 33242.

Nature: Social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meets the first Saturday of every month at 8:30 pm in a safe, anonymous atmosphere to exchange problems, triumphs, fashion ideas, and beauty tips. A periodic newsletter is published. Outside consultants in fashion and image are available.

MOVING ON, REACHING & EXPERIENCING: Address invalid at this time.

Nature: An action-based support group for the experienced male crossdresser. MORE will provide the support, friendship and trust necessary to allow the individual to explore and find their own answers of where in the gender spectrum they want to be.

Services: Meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The meeting consists of a one hour topic discussion, a brief business meeting, and a group public activity.

Security: Mailing list is confidential. Telephone contact list is open to all members. Attendance by non-member requires interview.

BLOSSOM C. PASTER: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

STARBURST: Starburst, c/o J. L. Hores, 1801-69 Avenue S, St. Petersburg, FL 33712, (813) 866-0438, Joe, or (813) 842-3513 for TS.

Nature: Non-profit support group for transsexuals and transvestites.

Services: Meets the first and third Friday of each month in a private home.

Security: Excellent. Meetings in a private home. Screening before attending first meeting. Call or write to make an appointment.

THESOUTHERNBELLES/TAU SIGMA BETA CHAPTER OF TRI ESS: Address invalid at this time.

Nature: Non-profit social/support group for male heterosexual crossdressers, their wives and girlfriends.

Services: Meetings 3rd Saturday of month in private homes. Monthly newsletter with items of interest to the crossdressing community.

ALABAMA (350-369)

SIGMA EPSILON, TRI-ESS: Sigma Epsilon, P O Box 7241, Tallahassee FL 32314-7241.

Nature: Social support group for male heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others. Serving Georgia, Alabama, N. Florida, & Tennessee.

Services: Monthly meetings at established Atlanta location. Monthly newsletter $15.00/yr.

Security: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA.

SIGMA RHO GAMMA CHAPTER OF TRI-ESS: SERGA, P O Box 16174, Huntsville AL 35802. Ms. Michelle Steadman.

Nature: Non-profit non-sexual outreach organization for support for individual heterosexual crossdressers and their families.

Services: Monthly meetings relating directly to the crossdresser and their family. Membership includes subscription to the monthly newsletter The Continuum. Subscriptions are $20/year for nonmembers.

Security: There is a mandatory orientation program. New members must be interviewed by at least two board members before they will be told when and where meetings are held.

MISSISSIPPI (386-396)

BETA CHI CHAPTER OF TRI-ESS IN MISSISSIPPI: Beta Chi, P.O. Box 31253, Jackson MS 39206-1253 Hotline: (601) 982-7678 (24 hrs). Lee Frances, Secretary

Nature: Social support group for crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA. Publishes Premiere newsletter.

Security: Inquire.

TENNESSEE (370-384)

GDATN SUPPORT GROUP: GDATN, Nashville TN, c/o GDANC, P O Box 721, Albemarle NC 28002, (704) 982 1028.

Nature: To help TVs, TSs, and others through the hard times by being available when you need someone to talk to.

Services: Meetings on the third Saturday of every month at a private apartment in the Nashville area.

Security: Call or write to be interviewed.

MUSIGMA, TRI-ESS: MuSigma, P O Box 61, Jonesboro AR 72403.

Nature: Non-sexual support group for heterosexual crossdressers serving the Memphis metropolitan area.

Services: Inquire.

SIGMA EPSILON, TRI-ESS: Sigma Epsilon, P O Box 7241, Tallahassee FL 32314-7241.

Nature: Social support group for male heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others. Serving Georgia, Alabama, N. Florida, & Tennessee.

Services: Monthly meetings at established Atlanta location. Monthly newsletter $15.00/yr.

Security: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA.

KENTUCKY (403-427)

LOUISVILLE GENDER SOCIETY: LGS, P O Box 5458, Louisville KY 40255-0458. (812) 944-5570, Barbara; (502) 458-8028, Patti; (502) 966-8701, Lori.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual educational social and support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others and supportive friends regardless of sexual preference or orientation.

Services: Meetings are on the second Saturday of each month. Monthly newsletter to all members for $20/year.

Security: Invitations are issued to meetings after a screening interview or with references from a member. Membership list is confidential.

OHIO (434-457)

CRYSTAL CLUB: Crystal Club, P.O. Box 287, Reynoldsburg OH 43068-0287 (614) 777-0648

Nature: An open support group for TV, TS, and others who cross-dress with a full feminine identity. We provide a non-threatening environment for crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Meetings the 4th Saturday of each month at 7:00 p.m. with a meeting fee of $15.00. Peer support, newsletter. Buyers' guide in preparation. We cooperate with neighboring organizations such as Alpha Omega, Paradise, and Cross-Port. Publishes The Crystal Chronicle.

Security: Inquire. Include a brief biography of yourself, and tell where you heard about us.

NORTH CENTRAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

ALPHA OMEGA CHAPTER, TRI-ESS: Alpha Omega, Box 954, Elyria OH 44036

Nature: A social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their families.

Services: Bi-monthly meetings. Publish the Alpha Omega Outreach newsletter.

Security: Attendance at a meeting requires the approval of a qualified Alpha Omega officer.

PARADISE CLUB: Pardise, P O Box 29564, Parma OH 44129.

Nature: Paradise is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization with an emphasis on friendship and support, especially for wives. Paradise has approximately 90 members, with an average of 50+ in attendance at each meeting.

Services: Paradise publishes a newsletter, Paradise Tales, and sponsors a meeting every other month with a catered dinner and usually a special event such as a speaker, makeup advice, a show, or other event of interest.

Security: Paradise welcomes all mature and responsible people. Membership is offered only after a personal interview with an officer. Non-members may attend meetings with the concurrence of an officer. Open membership, but all members must be crossdressers, and must dress at meetings.

CROSS-PORT: Box 12701, Cincinnati OH 45212-0701, (513) 474-9557, Shelbi.

Nature: Cross-Port is a non-profit, non-sexual organization for the male-to-female and the female-to-male crossdresser and transsexual, and supportive friends regardless of sexual preference, practices, or orientation.

Services: Cross-Port distributes a monthly newsletter to all members.

Security: All guests and members are expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen. Common sense is the rule. The mailing and membership lists are confidential. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number, or profession of any other member to anyone, except with the other member's expressed permission.

INDIANA (463-479)

HELPLINE: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

INDIANA CROSSDRESSERS SOCIETY: IXE, Box 20710, Indianapolis IN 46220. (317) 894-8109.

Nature: A non-profit TV/TS social/support group.

Services: IXE distributes a monthly newsletter to all members. IXE has a BBS, shared on line with the Adult BBS. Users must be registered with the Adult BBS before access will be given. Upon access type <J> then <I>. Dial (317) 784-6975.

Security: Mailing and membership lists are confidential. No names, addresses, or phone numbers will be given out, even with the member's permission. Manners and common sense are expected of all members and their guests at all meetings. IXE is a supportive non-judgemental group for all persons honestly dealing with gender conflict. We welcome all to our meetings.

MICHIGAN (480-499)

CROSSROADS CHAPTER: Crossroads, P O Box 1245, Royal Oak MI 48068-1245. Joanne Janiszewski, President. Phone messages: (313) 537-3267.

Nature: Crossroads is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization emphasizing friendship, support, and peace of mind of all. Crossroads has a formal membership of approximately 90 and an informal membership of approximately 250.

Services: Crossroads publishes a newsletter, Crossroads Chatter, and sponsors both formal and casual social activities. We provide referrals to other organizations nationwide, and to helping professionals in the Great Lakes area. We also investigate agencies, businesses, and organizations, and do considerable outreach work and publicity for the paraculture.

Security: Crossroads welcomes all mature and responsible people, and emphasizes good manners, common sense, and the security of all.

CROSSROADS OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN: See 'Crossroads Chapter,' above.

NATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ORGANIZATION AND SUPPORT GROUP: N.G.D.O, P.O. Box 02732, Detroit MI 48202, (313) 842-5258. Justina Williams, President.

Nature: N.G.D.O. is a non-profit support/educational organization for the gender dysphoric (transsexual) community, and crossdressers.

Services: We publish The N.G.D.O. Key to Freedom. We offer referrals to compassionate helping professionals and support groups which are separated as to sexual orientation. We also offer a discrimination committee.

Security: The N.G.D.O. protects the privacy of its members. You can trust us. Meetings are held at a safe location.

THETA OMEGA GAMMA - TRI-ESS (Detroit area): Theta Omega Gamma, c/o Tri-Ess, P.O. Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275 (temporary address).

Nature: Social support for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA

TV/TS GENDER FORUM: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CROSSDRESSERS: NAC, P O Box 497, Flint MI 48501. Grace Bacon, Director.

Nature: An organization dedicated to education and outreach.

Services: Publishes and distributes the informational pamphlet An Overview of Crossdressing, Transvestism, and Transsexualism.

I.M.E. OF WESTERN MICHIGAN: I.M.E. of Western Michigan, P O Box 1153, Grand Rapids MI 49501.

Nature: Social, support, and educational group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others, regardless of sexual orientation.

Services: Social outlet of the Cross Dresser. Mail forwarding. We have the services of a MSW social worker free of charge to members. Lectures and referrals. Monthly meetings and socials.

Security: All member files are strictly confidential. Prospective members must sign a pledge of confidentiality.

IOWA (500-528)

IOWA ARTISTRY: Iowa Artistry, Box 75, Cedar Rapids IA 52406.

Nature: Support group for TVs and their families and gender issues. MAGGIE affiliate. This is also the Iota Alpha chapter of Tri-Ess.

Services: Bi-monthly newsletter, rap sessions, annual picnic, annual banquet, resource library, changing facilities, professional guests, and informational programs.

Services: Inquire.

IOTA ALPHA, TRI-ESS: See Iowa Artistry, above.

QUAD-CITY SOCIETY FOR SEXUALITY EDUCATION: Quad-City Society for Sexuality Education, 1236 W. 8th, Davenport IA 52802. (319) 324-6941 from 6pm - 9pm.

Nature: Social support group for all genderists, gays, crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meeting the first Sunday of the month at 6pm.

WISCONSIN (530-548)

CHANGING MEN: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

MILWAUKEE TRANSGENDER PROGRAM: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

TV/TS CONNECTION: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOSEXUAL HEALTH: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

PATHWAYS COUNSELING CENTER: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

MINNESOTA (550-567)

MINNESOTA FREEDOM OF GENDER EXPRESSION: MFGE, Box 17945, St. Paul MN 55117.

Nature: An open service and peer support group for transgender persons, their significant others, and interested persons.

Services: Newsletter, peer support, services' listings for members.

Security: Interview required, confidential membership listings used for newsletter and related organizational mailings only.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

CITY OF LAKES CROSSGENDER COMMUNITY (CLCC): CLCC, P O Box 16265, Minneapolis MN 55416. (612) 229-3613.

Nature: Monthly meetings. The group's purpose is to provide a comfortable social setting for crossdressers to meet like-minded

folks. We are a non-sexual group when together; however, personal orientation is not considered when newcomers apply to join us.

Security: A interview before coming to the first party.

SCD PUBLISHING: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

NORTH DAKOTA (580-588)

SOUTH DAKOTA (570-577)

MONTANA (590-599)

ILLINOIS (600-629)

CHI CHAPTER - TRI-ESS: Chi Chapter, P O Box 40, Wood Dale IL 60191-0040. Hot Line: (708) 364-9514.

Nature: Chicago Chapter of the Society for the Second Self, a non-profit organization for heterosexual crossdressers.

Services: Social activities, a support group for wives and girlfriends, a help line, newsletter, library, speakers' bureau, and co-sponsor of Be All You Want To Be weekend. Meetings the 3rd Saturday of each month, annual family picnic, Awards Banquet, Christmas Party.

Security: Inquire.

THE SUNDAY SOCIETY: The Sunday Society, P O Box 47056, Chicago IL 60647 (312) 252-7024, Sheila L. Sampognaro or Louise L. Raeder.

Nature: Non-profit transsexual outreach and support organization.

Services: Meetings the 3rd Sunday of each month 6-8 p.m. Monthly newsletter Trans-World Bulletin (subs. $20.00 per year). Computer bulletin board "The Sunday Society US TOO BBS" 7 nights a week from 10:00pm to 12:00am or by request. 2400, 1200, or 300 baud, 8-N-1 color, mono, or no graphics.

Security: Telephone interview required to attend meetings.

CHICAGO GENDER SOCIETY: CGS, P O Box 578005, Chicago IL 60657. (312) 434-5445

Nature: Non-profit social and educational support group for TVs, TSs, their significant others, and supportive friends.

Services: Professional referrals, business and social events several times a month, annual Miss CGS Pageant, picnics, mail forwarding, monthly newsletter.

Security: Inquire.

US TOO: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS GENDER ASSOCIATION (CIGA): CIGA, P O Box 126, Washington IL 61571 Contact: JoAnn (309) 444-9918.

Nature: CIGA is a non-profit, non-sexual association emphasizing support for the male-to-female and female-to-male TV and TS and their significant others. Significant Others are encouraged to participate in our outreach program as well as monthly social events.

Services: Information on specific areas of gender dysphoria is available to members through our library system. Speakers may be provided to the general public on some subjects. Monthly meetings are on the 2nd Sunday - no charge. $20 annual dues includes the monthly newsletter.

Security: All members have pledged confidentiality. Interview required.

MISSOURI (630-658)

ST LOUIS GENDER FOUNDATION: St L G F, P O Box 9433, St. Louis MO 63117 Voice mailbox: (314) 567-8615. Please leave contact information.

Nature: MAGGIE affiliate, A social support group for all CDs, TVs, and TSs. Open acceptance for friends, relatives, and professionals. Meets monthly in a private, social atmosphere at a leading hotel to provide support, shared professional knowledge, confidence building, and fun. Changing facilities, makeup workshops, clothing exchange, guest speakers, library, professional referral, occasional events.

Services: A bi-monthly newsletter, the Gateway Femmes Gazette, club business cards, and a membership directory. An SOS group meets for spouses, professionals and significant others.

KAPPA GAMMA MU, TRI-ESS: Kappa Gamma Mu, P O Box 98, Belton MO 64012-0098.

Nature: Non-sexual support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self," Tulare, California.

TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON: Non-prisoners contact DEE FARMER, 23288037, P O Box 4000, Springfield MO 65808. Prisoners contact Mrs. PATRICIA FISHER, Succ 293 Cote-des-Neiges, 5858 Cote-des-Neiges Blvd, Montreal, QC, CANADA H3S 2S6

Nature: Education, advocacy, and support.

Services: Quarterly newsletter, legal support.

KANSAS (660-679)

I.F.G.E. HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT: See RESEARCH.

CROSSDRESSERS AND FRIENDS: CAF, Box 4092, Overland Park KS 66204.

Nature: Support for crossdressers and transsexuals and their friends.

Services: MAGGIE affiliate. Fall Harvest Weekend, regional conference with MAGGIE every fall. Non-profit, non-sexual social and educational support group. Meetings on the first Thursday each month. Business meeting and social night the third Saturday of each month. Newsletter, partner support, Big Sister program.

Security: Inquire.

GENDER DYSPHORIA SUPPORT: Gender Dysphoria Support, P O Box 15561, Shawnee Mission KS 66215; (913) 371-0658; Anne Ogborn, Facilitator.

Nature: Social/support group for people who are in transition, or have changed gender.

Services: Provides peer group support for people in and post transition, and their significant others. Dedicated to providing services to F-M's and M-F's equally. Open to people of all sexual orientations. Meet Friday evenings.

Security: Contact Anne Ogborn.

WICHITA TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE: Wichita Transgender Alliance, P O Box 315, Kechi KS 67067.

Nature: MAGGIE affiliate. Non-sexual peer support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, their spouses, and significant others. Group is open to anyone regardless of sex, sexual preference, race, or religion.

Services: Bi-weekly meetings at a local church; small donation requested, but not required. WTA provides mutual support, social get-togethers, referrals to sympathetic professionals. Changing facilities, newsletter, brochures.

Security: A chat with an officer of the Alliance to ensure that you'd benefit from membership. Privacy is assured.

NEBRASKA (680-693)

RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE: RCGA, P O Box 680, Council Bluffs IA 51502-0680.

Nature: MAGGIE affiliate. Non-profit educational, support, and social group for TVs, TSs, and significant others.

Services: Monthly meetings, a bi-monthly newsletter The Transformer, referrals for professional counseling, personal listings, social opportunities, changing facilities, and library.

Security: Inquire.

RIIO CHI RIIO CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Chapter discontinued. Contact: River City Gender Alliance, P O Box 680, Council Bluffs IA 51502-0680.

ARKANSAS (716-729)

MU SIGMA, TRI-ESS: P O Box 61, Jonesboro AR 72403.

Nature: See Tri-Ess, Tulare CA.

LOUISIANA (700-714)

TRI DELTA CHI, TRI-ESS: Tri Delta Chi, Box 870213, New Orleans LA 70187-1300.

Nature: New Orleans chapter of the Society for the Second Self serving members in southeast Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and northwest Florida. This is an organization for heterosexual crossdressers and their wives/SOs, and is primarily a "social" support group.

Services: Meetings the second Saturday of every month in New Orleans. Newsletter, The Flip Side, published monthly.

Security: Screening required for new members.

OKLAHOMA (730-749)

CROSSDRESSERS INTERNATIONAL: C.D.I., c/o Ms Gwen Pete, P O Box 50192, Tulsa OK 74104; (918) 582-6643/835-5334.

Nature: Social organization and support group welcomes TVs, TSs, and interested parties. No one excluded for sex or sexual preference.

Services: Get-togethers every other Saturday and someone is gen-

erally available for telephone contact 7 days a week. We listen, talk, and offer support for all phases of transgenderism.

Security: Confidentiality is assured and expected.

TEXAS (750-799)

HELP ME..ACCEPT ME: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

RECAST EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL NETWORK: ReCast, P O Box 2224001, Dallas TX 75222-4001. (214) 641-4842, Aaron Davis.

Nature: FTM support organization. Prosthesis research for FTM, physician referral, physician outreach, gender education.

Services: Monthly meetings, $10 donation per meeting, newsletter.

Security: Referrals from other support organizations or physicians.

DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER: Delta Omega, P O Box 1021, Arlington TX 76004-1021. Hotline: Metro (817) 261-3253 ("live" Wednesday 7-11 pm, otherwise answering machine).

Nature: Social, for heterosexual TVs and their significant others. Serving the transgender community of the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Services: Meetings every second Saturday of the month in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. **Help Me, Accept Me** discussion group meets on third Monday of each month at 7:30pm. Publishes The Texas Rose newsletter.

Security: Screening requireed for new members.

TRI-PLEX GENDER ASSOCIATION: TPGA, P O Box 381, Riesel TX 76682. Information line (817) 867-1077 most evenings.

Nature: Transgender support group.

Services: Meetings the fourth Saturday of each month in Waco or Dallas. Times and location will be in Boulton & Park's Gender EUPHORIA. TPGA members will receive Gender EUPHORIA.

Security: Screening required for new members.

HEART OF TEXAS GENDER ALLIANCE/NW: HTGA-NW, c/o Marlina Dawn Murphy, P O Box 30413, San Angelo TX 76903-0413. (915) 944-1381 (after 7:00pm CT).

Nature: Transgender support group.

Services: Meetings the second Saturday of each month in San Angelo, Texas. Newsletter, Petticoat Junction published monthly.

Security: Personal interview followed by invitation. Write for more information.

TS-PEER SUPPORT MEETINGS: Alice Webb, MSW, Atrium Crest Building, 18333 Egret Bay Blvd., Suite 560, Houston TX 77058. (713) 333-2278.

Nature: TS-Peer support meetings in the Clear Lake area, Saturday, 2-5pm, July 11, 1992 and November 14, 1992. $5 charge for refreshments. Please call before coming.

GULF COAST TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY: GCTC, P.O. Box 90335, Houston TX 77090. (713) 780-3553 voice.

Nature: Formerly the Gulf Coast Transvestite Chapter, GCTC is a social organization for CDs, TSs, SOs, and others in the transgender community.

Services: Meetings every second Saturday of the month in the Houston area. Monthly newsletter, Gulf Coast Transgender Community. Sponsors annual "Fantasy Adventure Weekend."

Security: Screening required for new members.

TAU CHI CHAPTER-TRI-ESS: Tau Chi, Box 1105, Alief TX 77411-1105. (713) 988-8064 voice.

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Newsletter, Femme Forum, published monthly. Meetings the third Saturday of the month in the Houston area. **Wives and Partners Auxiliary** meets the second Friday of the month. **Boys R Us** meets monthly (meet male self). **Heterosexual Crossdressers Anonymous (HCDA)** meets every Wednesday evening.

Security: Screening required for new members.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM FOR TRANSSEXUALS: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

WOMEN ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSGENDERED SUPPORT: WATS, P O Box 17, Bulverde TX 78163. Helpline: (512) 438-7604, before 9:00pm, CT, please.

Nature: A genetic women's support group devoted to the primary goal of exploring women's feelings, concerns, and attitudes about crossdressing. Affiliated with Tri-Ess National, publishing a quarterly newsletter for spouses/partners. Providing local support for Heart of Texas and Boulton & Park support groups.

Services: Monthly meetings in the afternoon of the third Saturday of the month, north of San Antonio, TX. Certified psychiatrist occasionally donates time to the group. No fees.

Security: Inquire. Names are confidential.

HEART OF TEXAS (ETA TAU) CHAPTER - TRI-ESS: HT, P O Box 17, Bulverde TX 78163. Helpline (512) 438 7604, before 9:00pm CT, please.

Nature: A non-sexual support group for heterosexual crossdressers, their spouses/partners, and families.

Services: Meetings on the third Saturday of each month north of San Antonio, TX. Newsletter, Cross Currents, published every other month. Spouse/partner support through Women Associated with Crossdressers Support (WACS). Social activities and outreach education program.

Security: Interview required before attending meeting. Mailings discreet. Membership lists confidential.

SAN ANTONIO TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP: SATSG, P O Box 12913, San Antonio TX 78212.

Nature: Non-profit support group exclusively for transsexuals. Affiliated professionals available for help and support.

Services: Monthly newsletter. Meetings the third Saturday of each month.

Security: Interview required.

BOULTON AND PARK SOCIETY: Boulton & Park Society, P O Box 700042, San Antonio TX 78270-0042. Help-line: (512) 545-3668 live Wed., 7:00pm-9:30pm CT. FAX (Mon.-Fri. approx 6am-5pm CT): (512) 545-4888. BBS (daily, approx. 5pm - 6am CT): (512) 545-4888 - leave private messages to SysOp.

Nature: Non-profit Texas corporation for gender transposition education, open, non-sexual. Peer support for people with any gender transposed nature. Spouses/partners, families, and friends welcome.

Services: Meetings the first Saturday of each month, monthly newsletter Gender Euphoria, local referrals for vendors and helping professionals, community education, reference library, referral to other support groups, sponsor of annual convention Texas T Party, spouse/partner support through Women Associated with Crossdressers Support (WACS), couples support, TS issues group, and "newly emerging" group. Annual voting membership $25.00 (add $5.00 for spouse membership), subscription only (12 issues) $15.00.

Services: All membership applicants screened for sincerity prior to meeting attendance. All mailings are discreet. Membership/mailing list is confidential.

THE OTHER SIDE: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

SOUTH-CENTRAL TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE REGION (STAR) CONNECTION: For information, contact Boulton & Park Society, P O Box 700042, San Antonio TX 78270-0042.

Nature: STAR Connection is a coalition of support groups in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and New Mexico.

Services: Coördination of regional support group activities. Speakers bureau, quarterly member support group information published, membership exchange program for participating groups, etc. Group representatives meet 3-4 times a year to work on regional issues. Group membership is voluntary and self-selecting. Open to all transgender support groups in the region.

Member Groups: Texas - Alpha Chi Chapter, Boulton & Park Society, Delta Omega Chapter, Gulf Coast Transgender Community, Heart of Texas Chapter, Heart of Texas Gender Alliance (NW), Tau Chi Chapter, Tri-Plex Gender Association, Women Associated with Crossdressers Support; Louisiana - Tri Delta Chi Chapter; Oklahoma - Sigma Beta; New Mexico - Fiesta Chapter (tentative member).

AUSTIN SECOND IMAGE: Austin Second Image, P O Box 14965, Austin TX 78761. Hotline (512) 515-5460 Wednesdays 7-9pm.

Nature: Non-sexual educational and social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others. All enjoy full membership with equal voting rights. "Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Walk beside me and just be my friend." Camus.

Services: Monthly meeting in the Austin area. Telephone help line. Educational outreach.

Security: Personal interview followed by invitation.

ALPHA CHI CHAPTER of TRI-ESS: Alpha Chi, P O Box 50266, Amarillo TX 79159. Helpline: (806) 359-7714, most evenings except Wednesdays and Sundays.

Nature: A non-sexual support group for heterosexual crossdressers their spouses/partners, and families.

Services: Monthly meetings on the first Saturday of each month in Amarillo, TX area.

Security: Screening required. Membership lists confidential.

FIRST SATURDAY: Meets in El Paso TX, see listing under NM.

COLORADO (800-816)

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

DELTA CHAPTER TRI-ESS (Denver): Delta Chapter, P.O. Box 803, Evergreen CO 80439-0803.

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual support/social group for heterosexual cross-dressers and their families.

Services: Monthly meetings and activities, monthly newsletter addressed to the issues of the cross-dresser and family. Established wives' network. Annual dues $15.00.

Security: Requires an interview with chapter officer prior to meeting attendance.

GENDER IDENTITY CENTER OF COLORADO, INC. (G.I.C.): 3715 West 32nd Avenue, Denver CO 80211. (303) 458-5378. Long distance calls will be returned collect if you so indicate when you leave a message.

Nature: A non-profit, tax-exempt, educational and affiliative organization designed to provide a public service to the community.

Services: G.I.C. provides information and education on the issues of cross-dressing and gender conflict through a library of books and journal articles, rap sessions, workshops and seminars, and guest speakers from various areas of the community. These areas include medical, legal, insurance, personal grooming, male and female appearance and behaviors, and other related matters. G.I.C. also provides a Speakers' Bureau and a 24-hour hotline.

DELTA CHAPTER TRI-ESS: Tri-Ess, P O Box 803, Evergreen CO 80439.

Nature: Tri-Ess is a non-profit organization exclusively for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Tri-Ess provides a correspondence directory, a directory of commercial services, a magazine, Femme Mirror, and chapters throughout the US.

Security: Membership in Tri-Ess is open to heterosexual TVs only. Membership and attendance at a local chapter meeting requires an interview with the chapter president or older member to ensure that the applicant is heterosexual and will comply with the Tri-Ess code of conduct.

CROSSLINK: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

SOUTHERN COLORADO CHAPTER OF GIC: Contact through GIC, above. (303) 458 5378.

Nature: A non-profit, tax-exempt, educational and affiliative organization designed to provide a public service to the community.

Services: Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm. Call the Center for directions to the meeting place.

NORTHERN COLORADO/ WYOMING CHAPTER OF GIC: Contact through Gender Identity Center, above. (303) 458 5378.

Nature: A non-profit, tax-exempt, educational and affiliative organization designed to provide a public service to the community.

Services: Meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. Call the Center for directions to the meeting place.

WYOMING (820-831)

WYOMING/NORTH COLORADO CHAPTER, GENDER IDENTITY CENTER: Contact via the Gender Identity Center, (303) 458-5378, for information and directions to the meeting place.

IDAHO (832-838)

UTAH (840-847)

ALPHA RHO, SALT LAKE CITY CHAPTER, TRI-ESS: Alpha Provesta, P O Box 26711, Salt Lake City UT 84126.

Nature: Heterosexual crossdressers' support group for TVs and their families.

Services: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA.

Security: Inquire.

ARIZONA (850-864)

JOHN TURNER MEMORIAL GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

A ROSE: A Rose, P O Box 24623, Tempe AZ 85285-4623.

Nature: A non-sexual support group for TVs, TSs, their wives, friends, and relatives.

Services: Social activities, meetings, educational programs. Publishes A Rose News monthly newsletter.

Security: Inquire

ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER TRI-ESS: Alpha Zeta, P O Box 24459, Tempe AZ 85285-4459.

Nature: A support group for heterosexual crossdressers, and their significant others.

Services: Social activities, monthly meetings. Publishes The Cactus Flower newsletter.

Security: Before attending, an interview with a chapter officer is required.

SORORITY: Sorority, P O Box 50151, Tucson AZ 85703-1151.

Nature: Support group for TSs, TGs, and gay CDs.

Services: Education and support about makeup and clothes.

Security: Inquire.

GENDER CRISIS HELP LINE: Gender Crisis Help Line, 3332 N. Romero Road, #13, Tucson AZ 85705. Karen Davies (602) 293-3456.

Nature: Referral Service offering referrals to local professionals specializing in gender dysphoria: cosmetic surgeons, groups, events, and educational opportunities for the gender community.

Services: A listening ear and a current list of professionals.

Security: All calls are confidential.

BUTTERFLY: Butterfly, P O Box 17776, Tucson AZ 85731-7776.

Nature: A non-sexual social and support group for TVs, TSs, their spouses and relatives. Not a therapy group or a dating service.

Service: Social activities, educational programs. Publishes a monthly newsletter, The Butterfly. Meetings held the second Saturday of each month.

Security: Mutual discretion and respect. Mailing list is confidential.

NEW MEXICO (870-884)

FIESTA! Chapter of Tri Ess: Fiesta, 8200 Montgomery NE, #241, Albuquerque NM 87109

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others. This is the Phi Chapter of Tri-Ess.

Services: Newsletter, Fiesta! published monthly. Monthly meetings in the Albuquerque area.

Security: Screening required for new members.

PHI CHAPTER, TRI-ESS: See Fiesta, above.

CD/TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP: CD/TV/TS Support Group, P.O. Box 26800, Suite 314, Albuquerque NM 87125

Nature: An unaffiliated open group offering support, acceptance, and understanding for crossdressers and their families.

Services: Meetings the 3rd Tuesday of every month (dressing not required). Anyone with an interest in crossdressing is welcome to attend.

Security: Ensured via mutual discretion and respect.

FIRST SATURDAY FOR TV/TS: Rudi Clarke, ST Route Box 886, Alamogordo NM 88311 (505) 434-5144

Nature: Support group for all TVs and TSs in the area.

Services: Meetings are the first Saturday of the month at the Whatever Club in El Paso, Texas.

Security: Person must meet with a member and establish their credentials. Call to set up an appointment.

NEVADA (890-898)

JENNIFER & FRIENDS: Jennifer & Friends, P O Box 1284, Sparks NV 89432.

Nature: Social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meets once a month. Only members may come to meetings.

Security: Personal interview with one board member.

S. CALIFORNIA (900-960)

AMERICAN TRANSSEXUAL EDUCATION CENTER: A.T.E.C, 1626 N. Wilcox Avenue, Suite 584, Hollywood CA 90028; (213) 469-4709; Amanda Silvestri, Director.

Nature: A non-profit organization serving the transgender and transsexual community.

Services: Confidential and non-judgmental telephone crisis and personal counseling, referrals to support groups in your area, electrologists, medical and psychological help, speakers, and a newsletter.

Security: Open.

ALPHA CHAPTER OF TRI-ESS: Alpha Chapter, P O Box 36091, Los Angeles CA 90036. (213) 876-6141, ask for Virginia. Kymberleigh Richards, President, Virginia Prince Founder Emeritus.

Nature: Los Angeles Chapter of the society for the Second Self, incorporating both the Sigma Chi and Lambda Alpha Chapters.

Services: Monthly meetings to offer support to heterosexual crossdressers and their wives/partners/families. Publishes Alpha Bits newsletter.

Security: Members are expected to join national Tri-Ess. Mailing list accessible only by officers for official purposes.

CROSS-CONNECTION: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

ANDROGYNY: Rachel Irving, P O Box 480740, Los Angeles CA 90048; (213) 467-8317 ask for Shirley or Sheila, 213-856-4867 ask for Rachel. Please mention that you are calling about Androgyny. Call between 9:00am and 9:00pm Pacific time.

Nature: Social and support group for those who crossdress.

Services: Meet on Tuesday nights from 8:00pm until 10:00pm in Santa Monica, CA.

CLUB CHERCHEZ LA FEMME: Club Cherchez la Femme, P O Box 14521, Long Beach CA 90803.

Nature: Private membership club for CDs and those who appreciate the drag scene.

Services: Once-a-month dance party with cover charge discounts for members. Can include discount with some merchants catering to TVs. Send SASE for details. Dues $5 or $10.

Security: Confidential membership.

ON THE SCENE NIGHT: Marlayna Lacie, 1856 Cherry #608, Long Beach CA 90806.

Nature: Sponsor open parties for ladies to come out and meet friends old and new. Everyone welcome.

Services: On the Scene Night the second Saturday of every month, and Fantasy Fetish Fashion Night the fourth Saturday of every month at the Queen Mary Show Lounge in Studio City. $5 cover, free buffet, free copies of TV Epic.

CROSSDRESSER HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB (CHIC): CHIC, P O Box 562, Duarte CA 91009. Information/Speakers Bureau: (714) 993-7142.

Nature: CHIC is for heterosexual transvestites or cross-dressers only, their wives, professional people (MDs, psychologists, teachers, etc.), and friends. We are a local Southern California organization. We offer support and friendship, and stress security and good manners.

Services: We sponsor meetings, parties, monthly dinners, and seminars on makeup, wigs, clothes, and other topics of interest. We publish a monthly newsletter, CHIC Clippings, and sponsor educational programs for the public. Meetings held 2nd Saturday night of each month.

Security: Meetings are closed except to members and approved guests. All guests must be screened and approved by two Board members and (if a home meeting) the hostess. Prospective members must apply with a written application, be interviewed by two members of the Membership Committee, and then approved by the Board of Directors. CHIC emphasizes strict security for all its members and guests.

CD SOCIAL GROUP: PO Box 224, Montrose CA 91021.

Nature: A group free of politics with never a dull moment. Write for more information.

NATIONAL GENDER PROJECT: See RESEARCH.

THE VALLEY GIRLS: c/o Cross-Talk, P O Box 944, Woodland Hills CA 91365. (818) 776-8504 (24-hour recorded message).

Services: Call in for information on LA area groups and ongoing events. This information also available on Cross-connection BBS.

THE CROSSDRESSERS QUARTERLY: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

ROXANNE CHERRY, M.A.: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

CROSS-TALK: See Commercial and Professional Publications and Services.

FEMININE IMAGE SUPPORT: Feminine Image Support, c/o Alicia M. Lichy, 5405 Arrow Hwy.-Suite 110, Montclair CA 91763; (714) 931-1515.

Nature: TV/TS/TG social club offering support, problem solving and friendship regardless of your sexual preference or practices. Significant others and novices are most welcome.

Services: Meetings held at 7:30pm on the first Saturday of each month in a private meeting room at ALICIA'S FASHIONS.

Security: Interview with at least one member of the Board or an officer. Privacy and confidentiality are guaranteed.

NEUTRAL CORNER: Neutral Corner, P O Box 12581, San Diego CA 92112. TV/TS information line 236-1586.

Nature: A self-help group for cross-dressers, transsexuals, and their families. Its purpose is to help its members live a normal and productive life.

Services: Serving San Diego County with social and educational programs, a communication network, monthly meetings, membership consulting, wives' and families' input, a buyer's guide, and a list of helping professionals.

Security: Inquire.

PHOENIX RISING: Phoenix Rising, c/o Kristen Dixon, P O Box 632852, San Diego CA 92163-2852.

Nature: A support/social group for transsexuals in transition stages.

Services: Weekly meetings offering mutual support and friendship. Sharing resources, knowledge, and hope. No dues or fees required.

Security: Sponsorship by current member required.

THE PRINCE INSTITUTE: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM OF ORANGE COUNTY, INC.: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

J2CP INFORMATION SERVICES: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

TERRANET BBS: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

NATIONAL AD-HOC MEDICAL COMMITTEE ON GENDER: NAMCOG, Sarah Seton, M.D., Coordinator, 1540 Burton Road, Suite 235, Redlands CA 92373.

Nature: Doctors in various specialties across the nation are currently founding an association of concerned, transgendered physicians. The interim coordinator is soliciting all male and female transgendered physicians (M.D. & D.O.) interested in becoming founding members. All specialties are welcome.

The purposes of the committee include mutual professional support, peer review and liaison with mainstream medical boards and associations, research and education, outreach, and lobbying for the benefit of all transgendered people, nationwide.

Full membership is available to transgendered physicians, residents, and medical students. Associate membership is available, and all other interested people are welcome. Write to above address for a prospectus and an application.

LADIES KNIGHT OUT: Ladies Knight Out, P O Box 19608-179, Irvine CA 92713, (714) 852-6332.

Nature: Heterosexual crossdressing couples' support group for TVs and their wives or significant others.

Services: Monthly BBQs, potlucks, and parties supplemented by outings to a variety of places for fun.

Security: Call or write.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM OF ORANGE COUNTY, INC.: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

OMEGA CHI TRI-ESS (Orange County, CA): Omega Chi, P O Box 9091, Anaheim CA 92802.

Nature: Social support group for crossdressers and their significant others.

Services/Security: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA.

POWDER PUFFS OF ORANGE COUNTY (PPOC): PPOC, P.O. Box 1088, Yorba Linda CA 92686.

Hotline: (714) 779-9013 weekdays 7:00 to 10:00 pm.

Nature: Open, non-sexual social club for crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Meetings on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Security: Interview by club officer.

TRI-CHI: Tri-Chi, P O Box 194, Tulare CA 93275.

Nature: Social and support group for crossdressers and their significant others.

Security/Services: See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA

SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF: Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare CA 93275, (512) 438-7788 live Monday 6-9:30pm.

Nature: Tri-Ess is a non-profit organization exclusively for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Tri-Ess provides a correspondence directory, a directory of commercial services, a magazine, Femme Mirror, and chapters throughout the US.

Security: Membership in Tri-Ess is open to heterosexual TVs only. Membership and attendance at a local chapter meeting requires an interview with the chapter president or older member to ensure that the applicant is heterosexual and will comply with the Tri-Ess code of conduct.

THE AMERICAN CROSSDRESSER: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

GENDER COMMUNITY ADVOCATES: GCA, c/o Ms. Tauria Linala, P O Box 6333, Santa Maria CA 93456; (805) 922-1309 (9am - 5pm PST Mon - Thurs).

See also listing under PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Nature: GCA is a non-profit educational project established to provide services by and for the Gender Community. Open to all. Also a professional medical, psychological and legal services co-op (see Professional Medical and Psychological Health Services), and utilizes its own computer bulletin board system, Searchlight of San Luis Obispo (see Computer Bulletin Boards).

Services: Local support group serving Central California. Information, referrals, support and peer counseling. Gender and sex information; referrals for medical and professional support, personal care, correspondence and peer-linking. International contacts. Peer counselling by telephone and/or appointment. Donations and contributions are welcome and tax-deductible.

Security: Confidential and non-judgmental.

SIGMA CHI CHAPTER OF TRI-ESS: See Alpha Chapter Tri-Ess, serving the Los Angeles area.

N. CALIFORNIA (900-960)

GENDER AND SELF ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

TENDERLOIN SELF-HELP CENTER: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL (ETVC): ETVC, P.O. Box 426486, San Francisco CA 94142-6486, Hotline: (510) 549-2665 (if no answer call Telzey at 510-849-4112).

Nature: ETVC is a delightful group of TVs, TSs, Significant Others, and friends. It is intended as a social and educational group, to meet and to have a good time as well as educate the public. ETVC is non-sexual, and has an open membership policy with over 400 members.

Services: ETVC publishes the ETVC Newsletter, and provides a full program of educational and social activities and referrals.

Security: The mailing and membership lists are confidential. Only the officers are permitted access to these lists, except in the case of judicial process. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number, or profession of another member to anyone, except with the other member's expressed permission.

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY: See LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES.

SAN FRANCISCO GENDER INFORMATION: SFGI, P O Box 423602, San Francisco CA 94142-3602, Christine Beatty.

Nature: Maintains database of transgender resources for San Francisco Bay area. Maintains list of speakers for public speaking on gender issues.

Services: Database printout including bibliography for $3.00. Send SASE for further information.

SIGNIFICANT OTHERS SUPPORT: SOS, c/o ETVC, P O Box 426486, San Francisco CA 94142-6486.

Nature: Affiliated with ETVC. An educational and support organization for the Significant Others of crossdressers and transsexuals.

Services: Meetings and a newsletter.

Security: See 'ETVC.'

GENDER IDENTITY ANONYMOUS: No mailing address available.

Nature: A non-judgmental transgender support group.

Services: Meetings every Thursday in the Science of Mind room at 3255 Balboa Street (near 34th Avenue), San Francisco.

DIABLO VALLEY GIRLS: DVG, P O Box 272885, Concord CA 94527-2885. (510) 849-4112.

Nature: Informal, non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, their friends, and their significant others.

Services: Meetings the first Tuesday and third Monday of every month at 8 pm, at Just Rewards, 2520 Camino Diablo, Walnut Creek. Publishes the Devil Woman newsletter.

Security: DVG is an open group and welcomes all mature and responsible persons. Confidentiality is assured and expected.

SEARCHLIGHT OF SAN LUIS OBISPO: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

FEMALE-TO-MALE: FTM, 5337 College Avenue #142, Oakland CA 94618. **Nature**: Support group exclusively for female-to-male crossdressers, TSs, and their significant others.

Services: Inquire.

Security: Inquire.

REBECCA AUGE, Ph.D.: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

HARRY BENJAMIN INTERNATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ASSOCIATION: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

THE PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

ANNE VITALE, Ph.D.: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

THURSDAY IRREGULARS: Thursday Irregulars, c/o Joan Sheldon, P O Box 6541, San Jose CA 95150-6541.

Nature: For over 10 years a group of TVs and their friends have met every Thursday for lunch. An informal discussion group and meeting of good friends. Participants come as their "male" selves.

Security: The group is very security conscious, so inquire about requirements.

RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION: RGA, P O Box 700730, San Jose CA 95170.

Nature: Formerly San Jose Chapter, GGA. Non-profit, non-sexual social/support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others regardless of their gender or sexual orientation.

Services: Our objective is to provide a safe and welcome place for male-to-female and female-to-male transsexuals, transvestites, and their significant others to get together with like-minded individuals. Attendance at all RGA functions is open to all regardless of gender. We also promote the complete development of RGA members as complete men and women through emotional support and education. We reach out to all transsexuals and transvestites in an effort to help them accept and make peace with themselves. We publish a newsletter and sponsor social programs, peer support, outreach work, and public education. Visitors are welcome.

RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION: See COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

FOCUS: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

GenderFlex: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

SACRAMENTO GENDER ASSOCIATION: SGA, Blue Rose Chapter, P O Box 215456, Sacramento CA 95821-1456, (800) 585-7742.

Nature: SGA is a non-sexual membership-based organization serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of the gender-challenged community, their spouses, significant others, and professionals. Membership is open

to all interested persons regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

Services: Monthly socials, support groups (TV/TS/SO), newsletter.

Security: All mailing and membership lists are kept confidential. Only certain officers have access.

SOCIETY OF JANUS-SACRAMENTO GROUP: c/o P O Box 13852, Sacramento CA 95838-3582.

Nature: JANUS provides a forum on the erotic arts of S/M, dominance/submission (D/S), and bondage and discipline (B/D) in a supported and unloaded atmosphere. This is where people can share practical information and ideas, feelings, health and safety information, etc. JANUS offers education to the general public about the S/M community and to the S/M community about itself. All activities must be safe, sane, and consensual.

Services: Monthly program meetings feature guest speakers and general rap sessions. Member involvement is a vital part of the success of this group.

Security: All membership lists and mailings are kept in strictest confidence.

NORTH STATE GENDER CENTER: NSGC, 13522 Highway 36 East, Box 10, Red Bluff CA 96080. (916) 529-2201.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others. Provides peer support and referrals to appropriate professionals for clients only.

Security: Call hotline for an appointment with Client Acceptance Committee.

SIGMA SIGMA BETA, TRI-ESS: Sierra Sliver Belles, PO Box 19933, S. Lake Tahoe CA 96151.

Nature: Non-sexual support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See, 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare CA.

HAWAII (967-969)

HAWAII TRANSGENDERED OUTREACH: HTGO, 777 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 3114, Honolulu HI 96813. (808) 923-4270.

Nature: Social and support group for TVs and TSs.

Services: Bi-weekly meetings held at private location. Support groups, referrals, informational newsletter.

Security: Screening by contact person.

SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

OREGON (970-979)

NORTHWEST GENDER ALLIANCE: NWGA, P O Box 4928, Portland OR 97208. (503) 774-8463.

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual social organization serving the crossdressing community.

Services: The Northwest Chapter has at least one function a month. The days vary in order to enable all of our girls to attend as often as possible. We also publish a monthly newsletter.

Security: Private interview with the chapter president.

ROSE CITY GENDER CENTER: RCGC, P O Box 12714, Portland OR 97212. (503) 230-1036. All functions are held at the Living Communion Church, 3830 SE 62nd (Between Powell and Foster), Portland.

CAPITOL CITY CHAPTER: Capitol City Chapter, P.O. Box 3312, Salem OR 97302.

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers, transsexuals, and significant others.

Services: Support rap sessions, social events, assistance available for wig, make-up, clothing and demeanor. Monthly meetings.

Security: Individuals will be screened prior to meeting with group.

SALMACIS: The Equalitarian Feminist Social Society, Box 1604, Eugene OR 97440-1604. Sally Ann Douglas, Social Director; Leslie-Shawn Witham, hypnotherapist; (503) 688-4282 (Sally Ann, 6-11 PM PST).

Nature: Salmacis is a social and service society devoted to the concept of feminism, supporting all those who are or desire to become women.

Services: Direct telephone counseling, contact with others with similar interests, contact with our central organization and other organizations, and personal growth workshops. Also publish Femmes Together and The Equalitarian Feminist. The Salmacis Social Society meets the 3rd Monday of every month, 8PM at the Riv, 39 W. 10th St., Eugene, OR.

SALISHON, The Womyn's Information Network: Box 1604, Eugene OR 97440-1604; Leslie-Shawn Witham, Director.

Nature: A service and information network for womyn who perceive themselves living an alternative lifestyle.

Services: The only femininity clinic for males and she-males that is run by a staff of professional women.

WASHINGTON (980-994)

TRANSSEXUAL LESBIANS AND FRIENDS: TLF, Seattle Washington. (206) 292-1037.

Nature: A social group for transsexuals and lesbians. Open to the gay and transgendered community as well. We seek strength through diversity. Meetings every Friday at 6:30pm. Call for location. Significant Others especially urged to attend.

Services: We plan monthly functions. There is no membership fee.

Security: New members are screened. Members must be drug and alcohol free.

EMERALD CITY: Emerald City, P O Box 31318, Seattle WA 98103. Hotline (206) 284-1071.

Nature: The Emerald City is a social, educational, non-profit, non-sexual organization serving the crossdressing community.

Services: Offers frequent social and educational events ranging from private to very public. Publishes a monthly newsletter. Provides speakers and materials to the media and to public institutions to promote the acceptance of crossdressing. Attempts to influence legislation in ways favorable to individual rights. Assists partners of cross-dressers in obtaining understanding and acceptance.

Security: Guests are welcome at monthly meetings and at other events when sponsored and escorted by a member. Prospective members must be sponsored by a member and accepted by the Board. Confidentiality of member information is carefully maintained.

OMEGA ALPHA, TRI-ESS: Omega Alpha, P O Box 876, Stanwood WA 98292.

Nature: Non-sexual support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See, 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare CA.

THE INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

SEATTLE COUNSELLING SERVICE: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

ALASKA (995-999)

THE BERDACHE SOCIETY: Berdache Society, c/o Nora Jean York, P O Box 203134, Anchorage Ak 99520-3134. Nora Jean York, Co-founder.

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual, social, educational, and referral organization serving the TV/TS community. Supports the concept that gender and sexual identity operate on separate but parallel continua with unity of the individual and freedom of expression and growth our primary focus. (Sumus Quod Sumus.)

Services: Publishes a monthly newsletter Satin and Lace. Monthly meetings and social functions in a safe and supportive environment. Educational and personal growth programs. Wives' and significant others' support group. Mental health and medical referrals.

Security: All guests and members are expected to conduct themselves in a mature, responsible, and respectful manner. Membership is by committee after interview by chairperson or letter of referral. Anyone may receive the newsletter.

CANADA

ETRE FEMME; QUEBEC TRANSEXUAL ASSOCIATION INC.: Mme Viviane Belanger, 84, Boul. des Allies, Quebec, P. Que., Canada G1L 1Y2; (418) 529-1152.

Nature: French speaking transsexual support for both M-F and F-M.

Services: Monthly meetings, medical referrals, psychiatrists, psychologists, hormone therapy, and counselling service for parents of TS's.

Security: Private interview, after therapy group in the hospitals in Quebec City and Montreal.

FACT - QUEBEC: FACT, c/o Mrs. Patricia Fisher, Box 293, Cote de Neiges Post Office, 5858 Cote de Neiges Boulevard, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3S 2S6.

Nature: Closely affiliated with FACT - Ontario. A non-profit support organization for transsexuals,

their relatives and friends, professionals and para-professionals working in the field of gender dysphoria, and others prepared to support the aims of the Foundation.

Services: Information distribution concerning transsexualism. Offers peer support and peer counseling. Organizes support groups across Canada wherever these are feasible and has area representatives wherever possible. Provides speakers on transsexualism to the mass media and others.

Security: Inquire.

TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON: Mrs. Patricia Fisher, Distribution Director/Canadian Regional Director, Succ 293 Cote-des-Neiges, 5858 Cote-des-Neiges Blvd., Montreal, Qc., CANADA H3S 2S6

Nature: Information network for incarcerated transsexuals, including transgendered persons as well. We provide referrals for medical, educational, and public facilities.

Services: Counseling services and working with the TS who is pursuing legal sanctions against their correctional facility with regards to medical care, education, and employment. Quarterly newsletter.

Security: All incoming mail is screened to insure that the individual is a person in need of the services offered.

CLUB MET (Formerly TAM): Club MET, 4113 Dorion Street, Montreal, Quebec H2K 3B8 CANADA (514) 528-8874.

Nature: Non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Monthly formal meetings and various social activities. Bi-monthly bilingual newsletter, Garter Press, $30 per year.

TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSINAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

FACT - OTTAWA: FACT, Box 9155, Ottawa, ON, Canada K1G 3T9.

Nature: Support group primarily for transsexuals.

Services: Meetings monthly on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Security: Contact FACT president through the Ottawa Gayline (613) 238-1717. Arrange a time for a callback.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

TRANSITION SUPPORT: Transition Support, c/o The Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4Y 2C9.

Nature: Transsexual support.

Services: Annual membership fee ($25.00 Cdn) includes monthly meetings and 12-issue sub to Trans News newsletter. Newsletter subscription alone, $15.00. Meetings held at 7:30 pm on the second Friday of each month. Meetings are open to TVs, TSs, TGs, SOs, helping professionals, and interested, caring members of the general public.

Security: None. Inquire for details.

GENDERSERVE: See PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES.

STREET OUTREACH SERVICES (SOS): 622 Yonge St, 2nd Fl, Toronto, ON M4Y 1Z8 CANADA (416) 926-0744 (24 hours).

Nature: Non-profit Anglican Houses program specifically designed to address the needs of youth, aged 16-24 years engaged in, or drifting towards, the lifestyle of prostitution.

Services: Drop-in center (M-F 9:30 am - 5:30 pm), rap groups, legal, medical and welfare consultants, street and office work with youth, AIDS program, one-to-one workers, 24-hour crisis line.

GENDER MOSAIC: Gender Mosaic, P O Box 7421, Vanier (Ottawa), Ontario, Canada K1L 8E4

Nature: Social support group for transgendered persons and their companions.

Services: Meetings twice a month, occasional social functions, bi-monthly newsletter, Notes from the Underground, educational pamphlet resource and survival guide. Annual fee.

Security: Private interview with a qualified member.

THE TRANSIE TIMES: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

CANADIAN CROSSDRESSERS' CLUB: Canadian CDC, 161 Gerrard Street East, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M5A 2A4. 416-921-6112 24 hours.

Nature: Open, non-sexual, support, social and educational outreach club with an accent on FUN for cross-dressers, transsexuals, transgenderists, spouses, significant others, friends, female impersonators, and drag queens.

Services: Parties on the second and fourth Fridays, and every Saturday. Membership includes CDC Magazine subscription. The third Saturday is Ladies' Night Out in a local restaurant. Space for storage and changing, private transformation room, and two over-night guest rooms. Located in downtown Toronto.

Security: Modest screening process. Arrive dressed, or dress at the Club. Write, call, or send $8.00 for current Canadian Crossdresser Magazine.

TORONTO CDC NEWS: See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

MONARCH SOCIAL CLUB: M.S.C., Mississauga "A," PO Box 386, Mississauga, Ontario L5A 3A1 CANADA

Nature: Non-profit non-sexual social organization serving TVs and TSs, their spouses, significant others, and friends.

Services: Private and public functions, a correspondence and peer linking service for others. Publishes a regular newsletter and an annual yearbook. Members receive the Crossdressers Resource and Survival Guide also. Sponsors the annual Mardi Gras Weekend outing the first weekend in October.

Security: By membership referral or by completing an application and an interview.

PHI SIGMA TRI-ESS: Phi Sigma, Box 803, 6808 Ogden Road S. E., Calgary, Alberta CANADA T2H 1B4.

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual cross-dressers and their significant others.

Services: Meets informally six times a year. See 'Society for the Second Self,' Tulare, CA.

Security: Inquire.

ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB: Illusions Social Club, Box 2000 6808 Ogden Rd. S.E., Calgary, Alberta CANADA T2C 1B4

Nature: Non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meetings twice a month.

ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB: Illusions Social Club, Box 33002 Glenwood PO, Edmonton, Alberta T5P 4V8 CANADA

Nature: Non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meetings twice a month. Bi-monthly newsletter Illusions.

Security: Inquire.

DREAM GIRLS: Dream Girls, P O Box 535, Kamloops, British Columbia, CANADA V2C-5L7

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Bi-weekly meetings. Write for information.

Security: Private interview required.

CORNBURY SOCIETY: Cornbury Society, Box 3745, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Z1 CANADA.

Nature: Non-sexual support group for heterosexual crossdressers.

Services/Security: Inquire for meeting times and locations, and security requirements.

TAU NU, TRI-ESS: See Gender Mosaic, above.

CHRYSALLIS: Chrysallis, Box 30, 12 Water St., Kitchener, Ontario, N2H 5A5.

Nature: Support group.

Services: Regular meeting on the third Friday of every month at 298 Frederick, Kitchener, from 7:00pm till 10:00pm.

ENGLAND

BEAUMONT SOCIETY: BM, Box 3084, London WC1N-3XX England. Information 081-756-1782

Nature: Beaumont is a non-profit, non-sexual organization for heterosexual transvestites throughout Great Britain.

Services: Evening and weekend functions, counselling for TVs with problems, and a contact system for members. Bi-monthly magazine: The Beaumont Bulletin, which contains editorial notices, personal ads, a shopping guide, regional news, and articles on related matters. Beaumont provides a library, legal advice, and a liaison and referral service to other organizations. Beaumont has a network of organizations throughout Great Britain, and affiliations worldwide.

Security: Private interview with a qualified member.

WOBS - THE B S PARTNERS GROUP: BM, WOBS London WC1N 3XX ENGLAND.

Nature: A support group for partners and families of transsexuals.

Services: A confidential support network by which people with similar problems can be put in touch with each other and given sympathetic help.

Security: Inquire.

SEAHORSE SOCIETY: BM Seahorse, Box 6093, London WC1N 3XX ENGLAND.

Nature: A social organization for heterosexual transvestites and transsexuals.

Services: Regular newsletter, social events, etc.

Security: Confidentiality assured.

BEAUMONT TRUST: BM Charity, London WC1N 3XX ENGLAND.

Nature: Registered charity and voluntary body funded by donations.

Services: Assists those directly troubled by gender dysphoria or interested in their care. Provides referrals to appropriate organizations, professional counsellors, self-help groups, etc. Assists the gender dysphoric person and his or her family to come to terms with the problem.

Security: Inquire.

FTM NETWORK: FTM, BM NETWORK, London, WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND.

Nature: Social support group for female to male TSs.

Services: Quarterly newsletter, Boy's Own, advice, referrals, occasional social events for F-Ms and their loved ones.

TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP: The TV/TS Group, 2 French Place, Shoreditch, London ENGLAND E1 6JB (off Bateman's Row). Telephone Helpline: 071-729-1466. Hours: 8-10pm Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Nature: Support/social Group for TVs, TSs, families and friends. Registered Charity #295376; member of the National Council of Voluntary Organizations (NCVO).

Services: Peer support for CDs, TSs, wives and partners. Publishes The Glad Rag and other useful and informative publications. Meetings Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, 7:30 p.m. to midnight. Comfortable lounge, refreshments, social areas, storage lockers, dressing room.

Security: Open meetings, but VERY conscious of the need for individual security. All that is asked is a name to call you by.

PARTNERS' SUPPORT GROUP (TV/TS/ SUPPORT): 081-204-4187 most days between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 pm.

Nature: Special telephone helpline for WOMEN (wives, mothers, etc.)

Security: See above

THE GENDER TRUST: BM GENTRUST, London WC1N 3XX ENGLAND. Helpline 071 730 7453 from 7-10pm Thursdays for transsexuals. 7-10pm Tuesdays for transvestites.

Nature: A help group for those who consider themselves to be transsexual, gender dysphoric, or transgendered seeking to adjust their lives to live in the opposite gender. Help also available for family members. We can provide trained counsellors, psychologists, and psychotherapists, and there is a referral procedure to a choice of other therapists as well.

Security: Confidentiality assured.

THE GENDER DYSPHORIA TRUST (Formerly SHAFT): The Gender Dysphoria Trust, BM, Box 7624, London WC1N 3XX ENGLAND Helpline 0323 641 100.

Nature: A self-help group for those who consider themselves to be transsexual.

Services: Bi-monthly newsletter, dyscourse, handbook, and other relevant material. Confidential contact system for members.

Security: Confidentiality assured.

NEW TRANSESSEX: P.O. Box 3, Basildon, Essex, England SS14 1PT; 0268-583761, Wednesday and Sunday evenings 7:00 - 10:00pm.

Nature: TV/TS social club.

Services: Meetings 2nd Friday of every month at the Kavorah Manor. There is a quarterly magazine, Narcissus, and a help line.

Security: Inquire. Very secure.

LIVERBIRDS, MERSEYSIDE TV/TS GROUP: Merseyside TV/TS Group, c/o Friend Merseyside, 36 Bolton Street, Liverpool L3 5LX ENGLAND UK. D. S. Cochran, Secretary. 051 709 4745 Friday evenings only.

Nature: See 'Beaumont Society.'

Services: Above address is the Friend Merseyside, the local gay group. They are allowing us to use their place Fridays from 8-10pm. You would be well advised to call and confirm.

INTERNATIONAL GENDER TRANSIENT AFFINITY (IGTA): IGTA, c/o Miss Phaedra Kelly, Director, 1, Bank Buildings, School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight, P040 9AJ, UK of GB

Nature: An international network by mail and physical contact, serving front line community cases overseas, engaged in research, documentation, fact finding and rescue missions, linking Third World and politically endangered groups to free world groups.

Services: Education, information, active and exchange assistance, communication. No fees, but freewill contributions needed and welcome.

Security: As applicable to location(s). Free World Transgendered individuals not interested in, or able to assist with work, please try other more social groups.

BOY'S OWN See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

THE NORTHERN CONCORD (Manchester): Jenny Baker, The Northern Concord, P.O. Box 258, Manchester, M60 1LN ENGLAND

Nature: A non-profit social and support group for transvestites, transsexuals, their wives and significant others. Associated with the Beaumont Society, and the TV/TS Support Group.

Services: Meetings at a Bistro in Manchester city every Wednesday night from 7:30 - 12:00. Changing facilities, licensed bar, meals. Accomodation available. Publishes a quarterly magazine Cross Talk.

Security: Inquire.

ROSE'S: P.O. Box 339, Sheffield S1 3SX ENGLAND 0742-342870

Nature: A private house offering comprehensive facilities to help all who love 'dressing' - not only those who cross-dress, but their wives and girl friends and other ladies who love 'dressing up.'

Services: Regular social evenings and parties, visits and accommodation at other times by arrangement. Quarterly publication Repartee.

Security: Full confidentiality assured.

SCOTLAND

GRAMPIAN GENDER GROUP: 3G, Aberdeen, SCOTLAND.

Nature: Open to members of other groups.

Services: Third Saturday of each month except December, rooms open at 1pm for 2pm meeting, £2.00. Changing facilities or arrive dressed. Wives and partners welcome. Anne Forrester, 03398 83695.

THE SCOTTISH TV/TS GROUP: address invalid at this time.

Nature: Non-profit non-sexual TV/TS Support Group.

Security: Open meetings on the last Saturday of every month in private rooms in Edinburgh, at 1.00 for 2.00pm. Meetings in Glasgow every second and fourth Monday from 7.00pm. Very conscious of the need for individual security. Wives and partners welcome.

CROSSLYNX TV/TS GROUP: Crosslynx, c/o SLGS, P O Box 38, Glasgow, SCOTLAND G2 2QF Phone 041 221 8372

Nature: Provide help and support to all TVs, TSs, TGs, their spouses, families, and friends. No individual will be excluded because of his sexual orientation.

Services: Meets in Glasgow on the second Tuesday of each month from 7-10pm.

Security: Inquire. We are conscious of the need for security.

IRELAND

BELFAST BUTTERFLY CLUB BELFAST BUTTERFLY CLUB, P.O. Box 210, Belfast BT1 1BG N. IRELAND.

Nature: Social support group for TVs, TSs, friends.

Services: Meetings in Belfast on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 7.30pm to 11.30pm. Full program of activities.

TRANSGENDER ARCHIVE: See LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES.

FRANCE

ASSOCIATION BEAUMONT CONTINENTALE: Gaby Linsig, 2 Rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim, France.

Nature: See, 'Beaumont Society,' in the England listings.

DOTEURS DE FRANCE: Chateau de la Frogerie, 45240 Ligay le Ribault, France Phone: 38454100.

Nature: This is a continuation of the work started by Pasteur Douce and the CCL.

SWITZERLAND

KONTAKTFORUM FEMME TRAVESTIE: 8023 Zurich, Switzerland Postfach 6788.

Nature: Very active social group in Switzerland. Other details are unavailable at this time.

NETHERLANDS

DESTICHTING REBORN: De stichting REBORN, Maria Danneelserf 10, 2907 BD CAPELLE a/d YSSEL, NETHERLANDS. Immanuel B. de Vries. 31104503469.

Nature: Social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meeting once a month in a private apartment on the second Friday, 21.00-02.00H. Small shop for clothes and accessories. Smaller meetings twice a week. Bi-monthly newsletter.

GERMANY

TRANSIDENTITAS: Transidentitas, Menschen Mit Abweichender Geschlects Identitat, Postfach 10 10 46, 6050 Offenbach GERMANY Phone: 069 80010 08

Nature: Support group for transvestites and transsexuals.

Services: Inquire.

TV CLUB HAMBURG: Postfach 26 14 26, 2000 Hamburg 26 GERMANY Phone: 040.250.13.13 (Christel Grunwald)

Nature: Inquire.

Services: Inquire.

TRANSVESTITENGRUPPE: c/o MANNEGE, FRIEDRICHSTRASSE 165 (HAUS DER DEMOKRATIE) 1080 BERLIN GERMANY Phone: 030 208 21 57

Nature: Support group for men who like to crossdress.

Services: Counselling, monthly open meetings every first Monday at 7:30 pm at the above address, rap sessions about gender issues, and politics for a non-sexist society.

Formerly known as MANNER IN FRAUENKLEIDEN.

NORWAY

F.P.E. (Northern Europe): FPE-NE, Postboks 1968 Vika, N 0125 Oslo 1, NORWAY.

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual organization for hetero-sexual transvestites throughout Scandinavia with independent governed regions in Sweden, Denmark, and Norway.

Services: Monthly meetings, and twice a year weekend functions. Counselling for TVs with problems, and a contact system for members. Publishes Feminform, an informative, quarterly publication. A private library for members.

Security: Private interview with qualified member.

SWEDEN

F.P.E. (SWEDEN): FPE NE, Box 11107, S-500 11, Boras, SWEDEN

Nature: See F.P.E. Northern Europe.

Services: Publishes Feminform, the magazine for FPE-NE. Weekend meetings in Stockholm, and throughout Sweden. Meetings the first Wednasday of each month.

Security: Private interview with qualified member.

DENMARK

FPE NE: FPE-NE, Boks 192, DK-2600, Glostrup, Denmark.

Nature: See, 'Beaumont Society,' in the England listings.

Services: Monthly meetings.

TURKEY

TRAVESTY / TRANSSEXUALLE: A group representing Transvestites and Transsexuals of Turkey, but DO NOT mention the name of the group on the envelop. Communication is best in German, French, or Spanish. c/o Yesil Bizan, Lao 176/D.S., Kultur Je Sanat, Siraselviler, Taksim, Istanbul, TURKEY. Phone: 157 8925.

SEXUAL LIBERTIES: Use the above mailing instructions for Travesty/Transsexualle.

Nature: This group represents all sexual minorities in Islamic countries. It has a representative from each minority group. This includes a representative from the above community.

PAKISTAN

KHUSRA OF PAKISTAN
Muhamid Aslam Khusra, Ex-Candidate, PF-34 Abbotabad, c/o Hockey Stadium, Abbotabad, Pakistan.
Phone code 05921 6158 and leave message, or 05921 2858

Since Khusra means "transvestite" or "eunuch," this group is not underground.

JAPAN

ELIZABETH CLUB: 5-32-18 Kameido, Koto-Ku, Tokyo 136, JAPAN. Telephone 03-3683-6092 (Kameido Club).

Nature: The Elizabeth Club was established in 1979 for transsexuals, androgynes, and transgenderists. We are located in major centers such as Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya.

Services: We offer storage facilities for our members. We also have consultants available for helping members with make-up and dressing. There is a rental service of clothing, wigs, and other related items for members. The Club (through Ant Trading Co., listed below) also publishes a magazine called Queen every other month. This magazine serves as a source of information to members on activities and events in Japan.

ELIZABETH CLUB: Elizabeth Club, 1-1-9 Kujo, Nishi-Ku, Osaka 550, JAPAN.

Nature: The Elizabeth Club was established in 1979 for transsexuals, androgynes, and transgenderists. We are located in major centers such as Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya.

Services: We offer storage facilities for our members. We also have consultants available for helping members with make-up and dressing. There is a rental service of clothing, wigs, and other related items for members. The Club (through Ant Trading Co., listed below) also publishes a magazine called Queen every other month. This magazine serves as a source of information to members on activities and events in Japan.

ANT TRADING COMPANY: Publisher of QUEEN Magazine. See COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICES.

AUSTRALIA

THE SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.: The Secretary, Box 146, Ulladulla, New South Wales 2538, Australia.

Nature: The Seahorse Society is a non-profit social organization for transvestites and families. The Society is a member in good standing of the Association of Self-Help Organizations and Groups, 39 Darghan Street, Glebe 2037, N.S.W., Australia. Seahorse welcomes new members and overseas visitors, offering support to those of us unable to emerge by means of affiliate membership.

Services: Seahorse distributes information on shopping, coming events, and being femme through a monthly newsletter to members. Meetings provide friendship, beauty assistance, and help with related matters.

Security: Seahorse places strong emphasis on security for all members and requires screening of prospective members before attending meetings. However, no screening is required of affiliate members (who are not advised of meeting places) unless they wish to become full members. Overseas members are screened in the same way; overseas visitors must either be screened or have accreditation from a similar (Beaumont, Tiffany, etc.) organization.

SEAHORSE CLUB OF QUEENSLAND: Denyse Stewart, PO Box 386, Woolloongabba, Queensland 4102, Australia. Complete details of activities not yet available.

THE SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF VICTORIA: SSV, c/o GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, VICTORIA, Australia. Jan Baxter, President.

Nature: The largest continuously active club in Australia. A non-profit, non-sexual social/support organization for cross-dressers and their families.

Services: SSV regularly publishes the Seahorse Victoria newsletter. We sponsor social activities, outings, and related events.

Security: Inquire.

THE FLAMINGO ASSOCIATION: No longer active.

CARROUSEL CLUB: c/o Lana Allen, Box 721, Cowandilla, South Australia 5033.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Various functions and social events in private homes and public venues as well.

Security: Interviewed by an Executive Board member before application is processed. Care is taken to protect the security of all members at all times.

THE ELAINE BARRIE PROJECT: EBP, Box 405, Altona, Victoria 3018, Australia; tele 369-2613.

Nature: Anon-profit self-help

group for TVs and TSs. Self-funding and self-supporting.

Services: Regular monthly social meetings and education projects throughout the year. A large reading and video sex education library with emphasis on genuine TV- and TS-related issues. Guest speakers. Publish the Nu-Scene newsletter.

Security: Almost anyone over the age of 18 (TV, TS, helping professional, families, friends, and significant others) is welcome. One factor takes precedence over all others: that the visitor or member behaves in a civilized manner and bears us no ill will.

NEW ZEALAND

HEDESTHIA: Hedesthia Central, Box 78-026, Grey Lynn, Auckland, New Zealand.

Nature: Affiliated with the Beaumont Society.

THE MINORITIES TRUST & TRANSCARE/NEW ZEALAND: The Minorities Trust, Box 2983, Wellington, NZ. Telephone: Wgtn (04) 844-764; (work) 737-800 ext 8642; Miss Leone Jeanne Neil.

Nature: A low-profile, high powered lobby group promoting the rights of transpeople. A confidential, culturally divergent community support group helping meet the social and emotional needs of transpeople.

Services: Personal counselling, employment opportunities, professional and medical referrals, periodical publications, and a non-threatening social environment for functions and entertainment.

Security: Call or write and enquire.

SOUTH AFRICA

THE PHOENIX SOCIETY: Box 375, Parow, 7500, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa. Marlene Knoetze, President.

Nature: The Phoenix Society is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization. All transpeople, whatever their race, politics, religion, colour, sexual orientation or nationality, together with those closely associated with them are welcome.

Services: Publishes Fanfare magazine, actively trying to change attitudes in South Africa. Creating support groups in all major cities. Provides contacts.

Security: New members are "sponsored" by full members. All lists are confidential.

PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH SERVICES

(IFGE does not guarantee the quality of the individuals and services listed.)

PEOPLE SYSTEMS POTENTIAL: Niela Miller, MS ED, LCSW, PO Box 132, Nagog Woods MA 01718 (508) 264-4565.

Services: Counseling for crossdressers, gender confused persons, partners, family members. Also, workshops on personal development.

THESEUS COUNSELING SERVICES: 233 Harvard Street, Suite 301, Brookline, MA 02146, 617-277-4360; 44 Chapel Street, Augusta, ME 04330, 207-623-2327.

Nature: Counseling that specializes in gender issues.

Services: Counseling CDs and TVs, couples counseling where dressing is an issue in the relationship, gender clarification for gender shift people, long-term counseling for pre-op TSs, F-M counseling, weekend programs for couples, post-op TS counseling, professional supervision for social workers and guidance counselors, gender blending and androgyny, and codependency counseling. Ari Kane, M. Ed., Gender Specialist.

Security: All sessions are by appointment.

DENNIS PEARNE, Ed.D.: Consultations: 9 Alexander Ave, Belmont Ctr, MA 02178. Mailing: Dennis Pearne, Ed.D., 133 Grove St. Watertown MA 02172. Office: (617) 484-0013

Nature: Clinical psychologist.

OUTREACH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND REFERRAL NETWORK: OPERN, P O Box 368, Boston MA 02215, Ari Kane, Director. (617) 277-3454.

Nature: Provides referral services and educational resources for health care professionals on issues of gender conflict and gender dysphoria.

Services: Seminars, workshops, and professional supervision are offered from time to time. Publishes the Journal of Gender Studies.

NANCY STRAPKO, Ph.D.: Nancy Strapko, Ph.D., RFD 1, Box 2081, Plymouth NH 03264. Office is in Concord, MA.

Nature: Gender Specialist, Psychotherapist serving the New England area.

Services: Private, couples, and group therapy. Formerly with the University of Minnesota.

CHESHIRE COUNSELING ASSOCIATES: 104 Cross St., Keene, NH 03431; (603) 357-5544; Ken DeVoid, Ed.D.

Nature: Transvestite, transsexual, and gender identity counseling.

Services: Individual consultation and counseling in confidential setting, support group. Weekend and evening appointments available.

HUMAN OUTREACH AND ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE (HOAC) aka OUTREACH INSTITUTE: 405 Western Avenue, Suite 345, South Portland, ME 04106. 207-755-0858. Ari Kane, Director.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC OF NEW ENGLAND: GICNE, 68 Adelaide Road, Manchester CT 06040. The Reverend Canon Clinton R. Jones, Director; (203) 646-8651.

Service: Provides screening for pre-operative TS applicants desirous of hormone therapy. Also provides screening for sex reassignment surgery approval for pre-operative TS's who have met the requirements of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association's Standards of Care.

METAMORPHOSIS: P O Box 6245, Broadway Station, Long Island City NY 11106, (718) 728-4615.

Nature: Professional psychotherapy, individual and group support, family counselling, evaluations, treatment for all gender related situations, particularly for transsexuals. Full transition support. Call or write for appointment and information, Mon.-Fri., 11am-5pm.

ANDROGYNY UNLIMITED: Box 3445, Poughkeepsie NY 12603, (914) 452-8405. Roger E. Peo, Ph.D., Director.

Nature: A private service providing counselling, research, and education.

Services: Individual counselling is provided by Dr. Peo, a Board-certified sexologist. Counselling is for transgendered persons and their significant others. Referrals are made where appropriate. Classes, seminars, and workshops on transgender issues and human sexuality are provided both for college and graduate-level students and for other groups.

Security: Appointments for counselling can be made by phoning or by writing Dr. Peo at the above address.

PERSAD CENTER, INC.: 5100 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15224-1616; (412) 441-0857; Randal G. Forrester, James Huggins.

Nature: Mental health services for the gender conflicted and their significant others.

Services: Individual therapy, support group, evaluation and treatment for transsexualism including: gender identity team which provides initial and on-going evaluation, hormonal therapy, and sex-reassignment therapy.

SEXOLOGY ASSOCIATES, INC.: H. Martin Malin, Ph.D., 4835 Del Ray Avenue, Bethesda MD 20814.

Nature: Counselling for transgendered persons.

CENTER FOR GENDER REASSIGNMENT: Deborah M. Gilbert, R.N., Coordinator, 142 W. York Street #915, Norfolk VA 23510-2015. (804) 622-9900.

Nature: Intake and evaluation center for persons seeking permanent gender reassignment and SRS.

Services: A carefully prepared gender transition program which meets or exceeds all aspects of the Harry Benjamin Standards of Care for transsexually inclined persons.

Security: Applicants to this program are subjected to a thorough screening by a highly qualified staff of medical and gender professionals. An 18-month period of successful cross-living and a minimum of six months' hormone therapy is required prior to consideration for surgery.

CORSET DIGEST: CD, Dept. 174, 4514 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road, Atlanta GA 30338.

Nature: Monthly newsletter for wearers, collectors, and connoisseurs of elegant foundation garments. Subscription is $20 for 10 issues, one year, in US, $30 overseas.

C.O.P.E. CENTER, INC.: P O Box 607, DeFuniak Springs FL 32433. Clyde E. Trautloff, MA, CAP, CAS, Program Manager.

Nature: Private, not-for-profit Mental Health Center.

Services: Individual, group, and family therapy for those with issues around sexuality. Rap groups and individual problem solving.

Services: Strict confidentiality. All inquiries will be interviewed.

ADELE KATES & ASSOCIATES, P.A.: 1 N.E. 168th Street, North Miami Beach FL 33162. (305) 651-6442. Certified & Licensed Speech Pathologist, Adele Kates, Director.

Services: Transsexual voice change and gender identity. Includes: body language, make-up, fashion, hair styling, female communication patterns. By appointment.

CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY COUNSELING: 2999 N.E. 191 Street, Suite 607, Aventura FL 33180. Coral L. Schlosberg, Ph.D., L.C.S.W., L.M.F.T. (305) 936-8000.

Nature: Board Certified Sex Therapist, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Clinical Psychotherapist who has been working for fourteen years with gender identity issues. The Center is now starting a group for transsexuals and transvestites.

Services: Individual and group therapy.

TAMPA STRESS CENTER: Tampa Stress Center, 4023 N. Armenia Ave., Suite 220, Tampa FL 33607 (813) 872-8631. Carl W. Bushong, Ph.D.

Nature: A private service providing counseling for crossdressers, the gender conflicted and their significant others.

Services: Counseling of CDs and TVs, their wives/partners on an individual or couple basis where dressing poses a concern. Counseling, evaluation and support for TSs and their significant others. Referral and guidance of appropriate individuals for hormonal management and transition.

Security: Strict confidentiality. All services by appointment.

NORTH CENTRAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: 1301 North High Street, Columbus OH 43201. 614-299-6600.

Nature: Mental health hotline and service provider.

Services: Can provide individual counseling and mental health services as well as referrals about gender issues.

HELPLINE: Koala Hospital of Indianapolis, 1404 South State Street, Indianapolis IN 46203. (714) 248-5843.

Nature: Helpline for all issues including gender.

HOMESTEAD COUNSELING CENTER: Sandra L. Samons, ACSW, CAC, 1480 Shevchenko, Ann Arbor MI 48103, (313) 663-7871.

Nature: Individual and family therapist knowledgeable about gender issues.

Services: Day or evening times available. Leave message and your call will be returned.

INNERCHANGE COUNSELING CENTER, P.C.: Lee Padula, PhD, 37677 Professional Center Drive, Suite 110C, Livonia MI 48154. (313) 953-3333.

Nature: Licensed marriage and family therapist, certified sex therapist. Hours by appointment. Phone answered 24 hours.

MILWAUKEE TRANSGENDER PROGRAM: Milwaukee Transgender Program, Pathways Counseling Center, 2645 N. Mayfair Road, Suite 230, First Financial Building, Milwaukee WI 53226-1304; (414) 774-4111; Gretchen M. Fincke, MSSW, Dir.

Nature: A therapy program for M-F and F-M transgendered people.

Services: A complete program of emotional support, evaluation, psychotherapy, hormone therapy and re-assignment reassignment surgeries. Follows the Harry Benjamin Standards of Care. Contact Gretchen Fincke, MSSW, or Roger Northway, MS.

INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOSEXUAL HEALTH: 5594 North Hollywood Ave., Suite 204, Whitefish Bay WI 53217; (414) 332-1880; Charles A. Kiley, MSW, ACSW.

Nature: Gender clinic for persons in transition, counseling for compulsive sexual behavior including fetishistic transvestism.

Services: Thorough evaluation, emotional support, hormonal and surgical reassignment services.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM: Eli Coleman, Ph.D., LCP, Director, Walter O. Bockting, Drs., LP, Coordinator, c/o Program in Human Sexuality, 1300 South 2nd Street, Suite 180, Minneapolis, MN 55454. (612) 625 1500, Fax (612) 626-8311.

Nature: A professionally managed gender program based on the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association's Standards of Care. Administered by the University of Minnesota's Department of Family Practice and Community Health, Medical School.

Services: The program provides initial assessment, therapy, and various treatment options (including, but not limited to, hormonal and surgical sex reassignment). Post surgical therapy is also offered as a follow-up measure. Support and other psychological services are available for families and children of gender dysphorics as well. Therapy, physical health care, and all related assistance are provided in the context of a fully professional environment.

PETTICOAT JUNCTION MAGAZINE: P.J. Publications, P O Box 30413, San Angelo TX 76903-0413, Marlina Dawn Murphy, Editor/Publisher.

Nature: Monthly non-sexual magazine. Also publishes the official Texas T Party Photo Annual.

Services: News, events, photographs, issues, and articles of concern to the gender community, their significant others and their supporters. Subscription $20 per year, Mexico and Canada $29 per year, overseas (US funds only) $44. Sample issue $2.

Security: Mailing list strictly confidential.

ALICE WEBB, MSW, CSW-ACP: Alice Webb, MSW, CSW-ACP, Atrium Crest Building, 18333 Egret Bay Blvd., Suite 560, Houston TX 77058. (713) 333-2278, Fax (713) 333-2293.

Nature: Therapist formerly of the Gender Clinic, University of Texas Medical Branch, and recently in private practice in Galveston, Texas, is now affiliated with Larry Nahmias, MD, and Blanca Diez, MD.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: Tomye Kelley, MA, 8972 Oberon Rd, Arvada CO 80004; (303) 420-9885.

Nature: Practice limited to work with crossdressers, the gender conflicted, and their significant others.

Services: Private one-on-one psychotherapy, weekly support groups, process groups for those in or preparing for transition. Also, a professional Speakers' Forum.

GENDER IDENTITY COMMITTEE: Department of Psychiatry, University of Utah, College of Medicine, 50 North Medical Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84132; 801-581-7951. Dr. Nyla J. Cole, MD.

Services: Details not available at this time.

JOHN TURNER MEMORIAL GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: c/o Robin M. Mathy, M.A., 6330-1 E. Thomas Road Suite 210, Scottsdale AZ 85251.

Nature: Counseling clinic led by transsexual sexologist to help patients explore the gender continuum and find the most appropriate niche(s).

ROXANNE CHERRY, M.A.: Roxanne Cherry, M.A., 937 W. Foothill Blvd., Suite F, Claremont CA 91711; (213) 202-1820, (714) 624-6539.

Nature: Licensed marriage family child therapist

Services: Individual, couple, group psychotherapy, gender dysphoria, sexual orientation issues.

THE PRINCE INSTITUTE: The Prince Institute, P O Box 2916, Palm Springs CA 92263 Angela Prince, Ph.D. Director.

Nature: A private transgender awareness center offering counselling, education, and support services.

Services: Individual and/or group counselling primarily for the cross-dresser/transvestite and/or his significant other. Trans-gender, human sexuality, and personal development classes, seminars, and workshops are also available. Services may be conducted through office visits, by telephone, or by correspondence.

Security: Total confidentiality.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM OF ORANGE COUNTY, INC.: 32158 Camino Capistrano, Suite 203, San Juan Capistrano CA 92675; (714) 240-7020. Wm. G. Heard, Ph.D., Director.

Nature: A comprehensive program for gender dysphoric persons. Our program is one of many options available. It is a composite of evaluative and treatment techniques developed over the years by the more successful programs, which permit extensive screening and interaction of the patient at minimum cost, integrating the patient into the mainstream of society.

Services: Our program is structured to permit the patient to explore alternatives to sex reassignment while providing an effective support mechanism during transition. Our program is a 4-block procedure consisting of intake, transition/support, surgery approval/disapproval, and follow-up.

GENDERCOMMUNITYADVOCATES: GCA, Ms Tauria Linala, P.O. Box 6333, Santa Maria CA 93454; (805) 922-1309...voice, (805) 549-0961...data.

Nature: Professional medical, psychological, and legal services co-op. A full service gender program.

Services: Crisis intervention, peer counseling, intake, psychological therapy, referrals for hormones, socialization, and referrals for all medical procedures based on the Harry Benjamin Standards of Care.

GENDER & SELF ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM: P O Box 4447, San Francisco CA 94101; (415) 558-8058; Joni E. Israel, Director.

Nature: A private personal growth consultation program providing individual, couple, and small group sessions focusing on gender, self & social acceptance, whole-self integration, coming-out, cross-dressing, HIV concerns, and ACA/Co-dependency issues.

Services: Short & long-term consultation, small group support and quarterly weekend workshops focusing on gender & acceptance/integration issues. Sliding scale fee. Serving TSs, TVs, and other minorities. Provide professional consultation & training.

TENDERLOIN SELF-HELP CENTER: 191 Golden Gate Ave, San Francisco CA 94102; (415) 554-0518.

Nature: We are an innovative, non-traditional mental health program. We are a project of Central City Hospitality House.

Services: Training in peer counseling, support group facilitation, job training. We offer peer counseling, TV/TS support groups, A.A., shelter referrals and emergency medical care referrals, and other basic survival needs. We serve the 'Tenderloin' and 'South Of Market' communities of San Francisco.

REBECCA AUGE, Ph.D: 3637 Grand Ave., Suite C, Oakland CA 94610; (415) 426-0718 or 835-9820.

Nature: Clinical Psychologist working with patients on gender issues, gender dysphoria, cross-dressing, gender role transition, couples issues, child abuse, dysfunctional family histories, among others. Member of HBIGDA, uses Standards of Care, and a sliding fee scale.

HARRY BENJAMIN INTERNATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ASSOCIATION INC.: HBIGDA, 1515 El Camino Real, Palo Alto CA 94306. (415) 326-4645.

Nature: Resource for professionals who work with gender dysphoric patients. Establishes the Standards of Care, the international guideline for the treatment of gender dysphoria.

THE PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH: Box 908, Berkeley CA 94701; (415) 548-8283. Hot Line: (415) 841-6224. Allyana Guenther, Executive Director.

Nature: A private, non-profit agency funded by the United Way, county revenue sharing funds, sliding scale fees, and contributions. The Center is dedicated to providing high-quality services to sexual minorities of all ages, races, and backgrounds.

Services: Educational services and outreach to the community at large. Speakers' Bureau, counseling, and group meetings.

ANNE VITALE, Ph.D.: D Street Counseling Group, 610 D St., San Rafael CA 94901; (415) 456-4452.

Nature: Psychotherapist specializing in gender-related issues.

Services: In private practice, but associated with other Bay Area gender professionals, and can provide complete pre- and post-op psychotherapy, and recommendation for hormone therapy and/or sex reassignment surgery when applicable.

SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER: Box 3224, Honolulu HI 96801-3224; (808) 926-1000.

Services: Therapists, referrals, special support group for TVs and TSs.

THE INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER: 1812 East Madison, Seattle WA 98122; (206) 329-6651.

Nature: Ingersoll Gender Center is a non-profit counseling and referral service for the transsexual community in the Northwest. It is managed by a professional board and has eight experienced, licensed therapists with advanced degrees on contract. Ingersoll works closely with the Emerald City and Seattle Counseling Service.

Services: Individual and group counseling, professional consultation to service providers, referrals, research, and public information presentation. Weekly support meetings, public information presentations, research, and informational materials upon request.

SEATTLE COUNSELING SERVICE: 1505 Broadway, Seattle WA 98122, (206) 282-9314 noon, to 9 pm weekdays, Michael Auch, Executive Director.

Nature: Seattle Counseling Service is the oldest counseling service for sexual minorities in the U.S. A United Way agency, SCS receives grants from state and local sources to provide counseling and therapy for the full range of problems related to sexual issues.

Services: SCS provides a weekly support group for TVs, TSs, significant others, in-betweens, and I-don't-knows every Friday from 8 to 10 pm. Facilities for dressing on-site. Also provides crisis line.

GENDERSERVE: Box 291 Station "A", Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8N 3C8. Susan C. Huxford, Director.

Nature: Counseling, education, and research services. Registered in Ontario as a proprietorship. Operating as a non-profit organization serving TVs, TSs, and gender dysphoric people in general, homosexual people, wives, friends, and relatives. Services for a nominal fee to cover expenses. Inquiries by mail or phone. No collect calls.

Services: Counselling in sexual matters for individuals and couples. Pastoral counselling if requested. Referrals. Initial counselling session (mail or phone) free of charge. Lectures, radio/television and other mass media interviews by arrangement. Group counselling and therapy by request.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, 250 College Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 1R8. 416-979-2221, ext. 2339.

Nature: Offers assessment and counseling for all gender dysphorics referred from any physician. Can include approval for reimbursement of reassignment surgery upon completion of established international criteria. Full assessments done over a three-day period.

Services: Weekly therapy available for those in area, referals for those further away. Staff is available for public speaking, family therapy, seminars, and professional presentations.

BOY'S OWN: FTM Newsletter, 376 Upper Brook street, Victoria Park, Manchester M13 0EP ENGLAND

Nature: Periodical publication. Write for more information.

COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS

CD FORUM: UUCP electronic mail:
uunet!samsung!wizvax!cdforum-request
Internet electronic mail:
samsung!wizvax!cdforum-request@uunet.uu.net

Nature: An electronic mailing list.

Services: To share experiences about gender issues. This list is in Digest Format. An archive server with resources, movie/book lists, and fiction is available. Back issues are available. Electronic mail forwarding to members. To join, send electronic mail to Stephanie P. Gilgut at the above address. Your first contribution should include a brief bio. Contributions for publication should be sent by email to:
UUCP: **uunet!samsung!wizvax!cdforum**
Internet: **samsung!wizvax!cdforum@uunet.uu.net**

THE JERSEY SHORE SYSTEM: Ocean County, NJ; (609) 693-8849. 300/1200 baud, 8N1.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board Service.

Services: Log on using the name APRIL MAY with the password of FRIENDS (all caps). This will get you into a sub-board of the main system. After you have logged on as above you may register the name of your choice for future access.

ALTERNATIVES: New York NY. (212) 349-2845 - 2400/MNP5, (212) 349-3064 - 9600/v.32/HST 8 bit, NONE parity, & 1 stop bit.

Services: Support and entertainment for the TV/TS/TG community. Extensive libraries and special interest groups. Health SIG supervised by a licensed, practicing physician. Growing AIDS library, and a private SIG for PWAs (People with AIDS). Also open to gays and lesbians. BBS located in a PC-Pursuit gateway for major reductions in long distance charges.

GENDERLINE:

Nature: BBS (Compuserve Information Service).

Services: Nodes nationwide. Admission by subscription to Compuserve and by permission by System Operator HSX forum B (GO HSX 200 at any prompt). Discreet

support community for both TVs and TSs. Consists of closed forum, conference area, and extensive data library of factual information and archived discussions of topics of concern.

NEW WOMEN'S SUB-BOARD: (301) 317-1868. 24 hours.

PASSING FANCY: Alexandria, VA (703) 765-6290; 300/1200/2400 baud, 8N1.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board Service. Both a public and a private section. The private section is available for subscribers only. Answer the "SYSTEM ID" prompt with "FANCY" to gain access to the public section.

IXE BBS: Indianapolis, IN (317) 784-6975.

Services: Users must be registered with the Adult BBS before access will be given. Upon access type <J> then <I>.

GDATN: SYSOP April Low, Denee Efird, P O Box 721, Albemarle NC 28002. (615) 333-0816. 8N1. Running 24 hours, TV/TS files, message section, and more.

TRI-ESS BBS OF ATLANTA: Atlanta GA. Two lines: (404) 922-2414, (404) 785-9216; 300/1200/2400/4800/9600 8 bit, NO parity, one stop bit.

Nature: Available to all involved or interested in TG community, including SOs. Conferences on CD, TS (AEGIS), adult fantasy, shopping, etc.

Services: Sign on with pseudonym and answer "TRIESS" at the password prompt for immediate access. Available to all free of charge.

TV/TSGENDERFORUM: Grand Rapids, MI: (616) 676-2429; 300/1200/2400 baud, 8N1.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board Service. The Gender Forum is a closed forum accessible exclusively by members of the gender community, and professionals that work with us.

Services: The Gender Forum also has a '**Companion Support Forum**' exclusively for significant others, spouses, and partners.

CAROLYN'S CLOSET: Minneapolis, MN; (612) 452-2676; 300/1200 baud, 8N1.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board: Totally free. A very nice, user-friendly board with some very nice user-written fiction and stories.

USTOO: Chicago, IL: (312) 252-7024; 300/1200/2400 baud 8N1.

Nature: Non-profit transsexual support Bulletin Board Service affiliated with the Sunday Society.

Services: Very user friendly BBS with four sub-boards (M-F TS, F-M TS, TV, general).

Security: Call first.

PUSS N BOOTS: Aaron Davis, 1551 NW 19th #905, Grand Prairie TX 75050. Home phone: (214) 641-4842, board phone (214) 641-1822.

Nature: BBS. Board up 4am-3am, message service, medical information, legal information, personal experiences. Baud 2400-9600.

Security: Call first to fill out questionnaire. Mention you heard about board through IFGE or Tapestry. Will have access to gender line on second call. Fee on extra online time only. 25 minutes free.

THE OTHER SIDE: Boulton & Park Society, San Antonio TX. (512) 545-4888; M-F approx. 5pm - 6am CT, most times on weekends; suggest N/8/1; 300/1200/2400 baud.

Nature: Electronic mail and information exchange with Boulton & Park Society. Some text files available for public download.

Log-On: For access to The Other Side, leave private E-Mail to SysOp with request. Security level mormally upgraded within 24 hours. User names are kept confidential.

CROSSLINK: Denver, CO: (303) 665-3746. 300/1200 baud, 8 bits, 1 stop bit, no parity.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board Service

Services: When you log on you will see, "You have reached M&D's Travelling Circuits BBS Where YOU Are the Main Attraction!" Name? Last Name? Follow instructions, answer questions. Enter the name "CROSS-LINK".

SEARCHLIGHT OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA BBS: San Luis Obispo, CA: (805) 549-0961. 300/1200/2400 baud, 8N1 standard modem parameters.

Nature: BBS affiliated with Gender Community Advocates

Services: Access information on full service gender program, counseling, referrals, peer linking, and education. 24-hour BBS. Be sure to complete questionnaire stating TV or TS when prompted for 'Sexual Minority Type.' Gay/Lesbian and Adult sections also available.

FEMINET: (408) 335-4387 300/1200/2400 baud, 8 bit, no parity, one stop bit. Software: QuickGGS 2.03 (highly modified).

Nature: Electronic bulletin board serving the gender community. Specialty: general resource for all TVs, TSs, and all other persons interested in transgendered lifestyles. Largest BBS devoted to gender issues.

Services: Access: Answer all new-login questions and you will be logged onto Digicomputronica, a public "front" for Feminet. Enter "P" (for password). Password is "KEY" (without quotes). 24 hours. Financed by contributions.

CROSS-CONNECTION: Los Angeles, CA; (818) 549-0529. 300/1200/2400 8N1. **Nature:** Computer Bulletin Board Service geared towards the Gender Community.

Services: News and information, courtesy of Cross-Talk, National Gender Forums and on-line chat, stories, poetry, friends, and fun! Group Newsletter and Publication exchange. Other professional data services to the community. Shopping Mall on-line early '92! Log on with user-ID "VALLEY GIRL" and use password "VISITOR" then follow instructions.

TerraNet BBS: (714) 248-2836 300/1200/2400/4800/9600 baud, 8 bit, NO parity, 1 stop bit, Full Duplex. Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Nature: Electronic bulletin board serving the gender community and PWA's (Persons with AIDS). Southern California gateway to the TRANSGENDER NET, TRANSITION, NEW_WOMEN, NEW_MEN, DRESS*UP, and GENDER POLITICS echoes of TGnet and AIDS/ARC echo, part of FIDOnet. Provides one of the largest full-text databases on gender and AIDS-related issues. TerraNet is an outreach service of J2CP Information Services, P O Box 184, San Juan Capistrano CA 92693-0184.

RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION: RGA, PO Box 700730, San Jose CA 95170. (408) 248-4162, 1200-2400 baud 8N1.

Nature: Non-profit Computer Bulletin Board Service.

Services: Gender community support. Two levels of service: public and private. SYSOP Michelle Stevens. First time users should have a private code word ready to remember. Public section is used by spouses and significant others.

COMMERCIAL & PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS & SERVICES

THE JOURNAL OF GENDER STUDIES: Outreach Institute, 405 Western Avenue, Suite 345, South Portland ME 04106. The official publication of the Human Outreach and Achievement Institute, it is published twice a year, and subscriptions are $16.00 per year.

TAPESTRY PUBLICATIONS: Tapestry, Box 367, Wayland MA 01778; (617) 899-2212; FAX (617) 899-5703. Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Director.

Nature: Tapestry Publications is a division of I.F.G.E.

Services: The TV/TS Tapestry is I.F.G.E's primary publication. We also publish and market a wide variety of how-to books, presentation transcripts, anthologies of pertinent reprints, directories, and other timely material. Tapestry Publications is designed as the gender community's own publishing house.

ROSEBUDS: TCNE, Inc., PO Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483, (508) 358-2305 (Tuesdays, 7-10pm, EST).

Nature: Rosebuds is the monthly newsletter published by the Tiffany Club of New England, Inc. It includes personal growth articles, and other non-sexual nonfiction about gender issues. Advertising is accepted. Subscription $25 per year, $4 sample issue.

Security: Mailing list is confidential.

TRANSFORMATIONS, Reflections On Gender Roles And Religious/ Spiritual Values: Joy Helms, P.O. Box 1355, Princeton, NJ 08542.

Nature: A non-profit quarterly newsletter which addresses the relationship between issues relating to gender struggles and religious/spiritual values.

FEM FASHIONS: 9 W 31st St, #7R, New York, NY 10001, 212-582-6823 (after 3pm). Muriel Olive, Director.

Nature: Clothing, makeup, lingerie, makeovers. Call for appointment.

CREATIVE DESIGN SERVICES: Box 61263, King of Prussia PA 19406; 215-640-9449.

Nature: A commercial concern marketing a line of products and services for the TV/TS Community.

Services: Publish Art and Illusion: a Guide to Crossdressing and LadyLike Magazine, sponsors "Paradise in the Poconos" weekends in May and September.

Security: Mailing list strictly confidential.

FEMINIQUE: 12423 Hedges Run Drive, Suite 144, Lake Ridge VA 22192.

Nature: A bi-monthly newsletter dedicated to all aspects of the crossdressing and TV world. Includes editorials and feature articles, makeup and dressing advice, interviews, profiles, and more. $5 for sample issue, $35 annual subscription.

Security: Mailing list strictly confidential.

THE TRANSSEXUAL VOICE: Box 16314, Atlanta GA 30321.

Nature: A newsletter written by and about transsexuals. $2.00 per copy; $12.00 per year.

BLOSSOM C. PASTER: 28417 Trident Court, Wesley Chapel, FL 33543. (813) 973-0987.

Nature: A private setting where CDs can take their wardrobe, wig, and makeup questions.

Services: Peer counselling, problem solving, dressing, electrolysis, and makeup advice by a longtime professional member of the Gender Community. There is a fee.

Security: Call or write.

TV/TS CONNECTION: The Connection, 2197 S. K.K. Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53207.

Nature: Monthly publication of personal listings. Available by subscription only, $20 per year.

CHANGING MEN: Editorial Office & Subscriptions, 306 N. Brooks St, Madison WI 53715.

Nature: An international magazine dealing with the issues of gender, sex, and politics.

SCD PUBLISHING: 1401 Melrose Ave, Minneapolis MN 55426-1843.

Nature: TV/TS publishing house.

Services: Publishes TV/TS Talk bi-monthly for members and supporters of the TV/TS Community. TV/TS Talk is modeled after the Penthouse Forum, but deals exclusively with gender related issues. $3.50 per issue; $21.00 per year.

HELP ME..ACCEPT ME: Dallas Gay Alliance Center, 2701 Reagan Street, Dallas TX 75219.

Nature: Publication about gender issues, sponsored by the Metroplex Cd Corporation.

CROSS-TALK: P O Box 944, Woodland Hills CA 91365, (818) 776-8503. Kymberleigh Richards, Editor & Publisher.

Nature: Monthly non-sexual, non-fiction newsletter. Also publishes annual Southern California resource guide.

Services: News items of concern to the gender community, highlights of tabloid press, editorials, make-up and fashion tips, psychological insights, significant others column, original comic strips, national events listings, and feature articles. $21.00/year, $42.00/2 years (US - write for foreign rates). Sample issue $2.00.

Security: Mailing list kept confidential, accessed only by publisher.

THE CROSSDRESSER'S QUARTERLY: John Moran Photo-Graphix (JMPG), P O Box 7217, Burbank CA 91510-7217.

Services: News, events, photogramps, fetish fashions, shopping resources, personal & vendor & club profiles. $7.00

JEANNE M. WEST: 450 San Antonio Road #50, Palo Alto CA 94306 (415) 494-2952.

Nature: Behavioral therapist. Experienced with the gender community.

Services: Private sessions. $75.00 first session, $35.00 for follow up sessions. All sessions confidential.

FOCUS: FOCUS, address invalid at this time.

Nature: A newsletter written by and for the female to male TS. Provides a place for fellow FTMs to share their feelings and experiences, and make new friends.

GenderFlex: GenderFlex, c/o Billie Jean Jones, 3430 Balmoral Drive #10, Sacramento CA 95821.

Nature: Monthly newsletter about all kinds of gender issues. Distributed free in person. Back issues available for $2.00 each first class in USA. Does not accept advertising. Does accept interactive submissions of letters, articles, opinions, jokes, poems, etc.

TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON: Distribution Director: Ms Patricia Fisher, P.O. Box 293 Cote des Neiges P.O. 5858 Cote des Neiges Blvd, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3S 2S5.

Nature: A newsletter for and about the transsexual inmate.

THE TRANSIE TIMES: T.T.T., 566 Parliament St, Toronto, ONTARIO M4X 1P8 Canada.

Nature: A monthly tabloid dedicated to transvestites and their followers.

TORONTO CDC NEWS: Toronto CDC News, 429C Dundas St. East, Toronto, ONTARIO M5A 2A9

Nature: Newsletter about the gender community.

THE CANADIAN CROSSDRESSER: Canadian Crossdresser, 429C Dundas Street East, Toronto, CANADA M5A 2A9.

Nature: Monthly non-sexual magazine for and about crossdressers, tanssexuals, and female impersonators. Includes articles, news, short fiction, poetry, and personal ads. Request subscription information, or send $6 for current sample issue.

GENDER TEAM AMSTERDAM: Prof.dr. L.J.G. Gooren, internist/endocrinologist, Dept. of Endocrinology/ Andrology, Free University Hospital, P O Box 7057, 1007 MB Amsterdam, the Netherlands Tel (31)(20)5489111 ext. 199, Fax (31)(20)5487502

Nature: Professionally managed gender program based on the Standards of Care, administered by the Free University Hospital in Amsterdam.

Services: Presently treats about 1100 Gender Dysphoric clients. The program provides intake, screening, diagnosis, hormonal treatment, surgery and follow up.

TRANS-TRAP (SCOTLAND): 53/6 Bread Street, Edinburgh EH3 9AH SCOTLAND Tel 031-228 2231 (Mon.-Fri. 2pm-10pm).

Nature: Crossdressing counselling and information service set up to help all CDs, their families, partners, and relatives with their problems. It is run by Julie Bradshaw, a transsexual, and her partner Douglas who is not a crossdresser but is involved with the welfare of the partners of the crossdressers.

Services: Counselling one-on-one or with the partner or relative if so desired. Utmost discretion. Referrals to other helping professionals if necessary or desired. Trans-Trap is a voluntary service, but contributions are gratefully accepted. Postal clients please enclose a SAE.

TRANSCARE: The Minorities Trust, P O Box 2983, Wellington New Zealand

ANT TRADING COMPANY: Ant Trading Company, 4F Daisan Kosei Building, 3-27-3 Kamazawa, Sumida-Ku, Tokyo 130, Japan.

Nature: Publisher of **Queen** Magazine, Japan's premier crossdresser's reference guide. Single-copy and subscription prices vary with exchange rates.

LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES

SEX INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES (SIECUS): SIECUS, 130 W. 42nd St; Suite 2500, New York, New York 10036 (212) 819-9770 FAX (212) 819-9776

Nature: SIECUS is affiliated with the Department of Health Education of the School of Education, Health, Nursing, and the Arts Professions of New York University. SIECUS deals with all sexual issues, including gender expression.

J2CP INFORMATION SERVICES: See: **TerraNetBBS** in COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARDS.

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY: SFBGALHS, Box 42126, San Francisco CA 94142.

Nature: Reference library for lesbian, gay, and transgendered persons.

Services: Large periodical collection of Bay Area and California titles preserved for research.

TRANSGENDER ARCHIVE: TGA, c/o Dr. Richard Ekins, Ulster University, Magee College, Northland Road, Londonderry BT48 7JL, Northern Ireland.

Nature: Anon-profit academic research and study facility.

Services: Seeking both group and personal deposits related to every kind of Transgender regardless of sexuality or self designation of gender identity: TV/TS/TG/GT/CD, Gender Bender/Blender, Drag (all kinds), Newspaper cuttings, magazines, group journals, photos, sound and video tapes, records, artifacts of history and living his-

tory. Publishes Archive News a newsletter and news agency with three purposes: (1) To provide news for transgender groups and publications, (2) To inform the transgender community of the progress of the Archive, and (3) To help the Archive improve its deposits.

Security: One hundred percent, closed deposits accepted as noted by the depositor. Access to research material by direct application to Dr. Ekins, granted subject to his decision. Access to deposits is only granted on permission by the original depositor and Dr. Ekins after a full security consultation.

RESEARCH

TEENAGE CROSSDRESSING RESEARCH PROJECT: Sheila Kirk, P O Box 3214, Pittsburgh PA 15230.

Nature: Long-term research project being conducted by a physician, a Boarded Specialist in OB-Gyn, with a research background.

Security: Parental approval required. The security of each teenager and his parents is a paramount consideration.

I.F.G.E. HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT: N. Cole, P O Box 241, Leavenworth KS 66048.

Nature: Historical research project sponsored by the IFGE Educational Resources committee. Researching the history of TV/TS organizations from 1950 to the present. The purposes are to capture the story of individuals and organizations, to create a permanent record, and provide a comprehensive education resource.

TRANSGENDER RESEARCH PROJECT: Boulton & Park Society, P O Box 700042, San Antonio TX 78270-0042.

Nature: General knowledge of all transgender behavior manifestations. Survey developed specifically for any individual with any form of gender rôle or identity transposition. Survey includes general beliefs about transgender behavior, development, sexuality, and general demography. Formal paper to be published and also filed with the American Psychiatric Association. Primary researchers include a psychiatrist with understanding of transgender behavior, professional analysts, researchers, and educators. Some primary researchers are transgendered. Expect survey phase of the project to continue into the early winter of 1992; response goal is 1000+ responses. All responses are kept confidential (responses are anonymous) and become the property of Boulton & Park Society upon receipt. Write to Boulton & Park Society if you wish to participate in the survey.

NATIONAL GENDER PROJECT: Box 126, Northridge CA 91328 Dr. Richard F. Docter, Ph.D., Director, Department of Psychology, California State University Northridge, Northridge CA 91330; (818) 885-2828.

Nature: Individual and marital counselling for TVs, TSs, and their significant others; research on gender issues.

Services: Counselling and research on gender issues. (Dr. Richard Doctor's new book, Transvestites and Transsexuals: Toward a Theory of Cross-Gender Behavior is now available from I.F.G.E., Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778.

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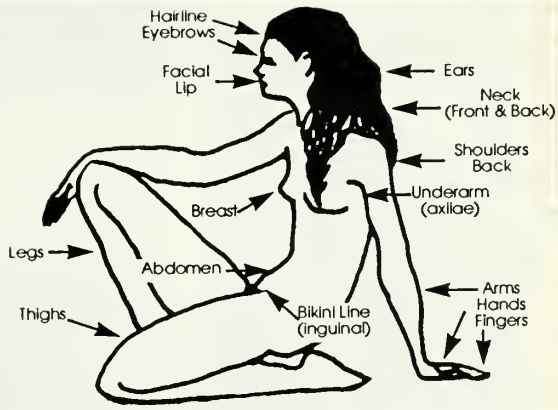


Common Sites of Hair Removal

LINDA DEFRUSCIO is a Registered Electrologist, Esthetician and Instructor at Roberts Institute, Boston, MA. She is a freelance writer and contributor to Tapestry, Rose Buds, Dermascope, Archives of Dermatology, Advanced Dermatologics Newsletter and consults with a variety of national magazines.

Personal Listings

PERSONAL LISTINGS OBJECTIVES:

1.) To provide a means of introduction, outreach, and communications for members of the International Foundation for Gender Education. (General Subscribers and Supporting Members are considered members of IFGE)
2.) To provide non-members with a source of support and communications.
3.) To provide the general public with a better understanding of the nature of the people who are members and supporters of the Crossdressing/Transsexual Community

HOW TO RESPOND TO A PERSONAL LISTING

1.) If the address is given in the personal listing, write directly to that address
2.) If there is no address given, follow these instructions exactly:
(A) Place your letter in an unstamped envelope.
(B) Pencil in the name, state prefix, and membership number (given at the bottom of the listing) in the *center* of the face of the envelope. (Be sure to use pencil so the name can be erased.)
(C) Include $1.00 (for postage and handling) for each piece to be forwarded
(D) Place the letters to be forwarded inside another envelope, and mail to: TAPESTRY, P.O. BOX 367, WAYLAND, MA 01778

WHO MAY PLACE A PERSONAL LISTING:

To place a personal listing you must be an up-to-date General Subscriber (or IFGE Supporting Member). (Please see the subscription form at the back of the Personal Listings.) As a subscriber your personal listing is free of charge for the duration of your subscription. Also, your mail will be forwarded at no cost to you.

PUERTO RICO

ANDREA FERNANDINI (PR-2817-63)

5'7", 150, white, romantic, and sincere. Interested in books, art, theater.

ROBERTA J. CAMPBELL (PR-2838-64)

6'2", 225, brown hair, brown eyes, single, 44. Bookworm and avid movie collector. "I'm a pre-op TS. Looking to write, talk and mingle with others who share the same problem. Also interested in forming a support group in Puerto Rico."

MASSACHUSETTS (010- 027-)

VALERIE VINCENT (E MA-P-0273-62), Occupant, Box 8341, JFK Station, Boston MA 02114

Member TCNE, IFGE. Centerfold in the Transvestian. 5' 10", 145, blue eyes, wear nails over two inches long. Interested in writing to TVs, TSs and women; fashion, makeup, photo sessions. Love being a woman. "Am preop TS, just starting on hormone therapy. Want to correspond with TVs, TSs, and women who find TSs interesting. Will write to all. Would like to meet others for lunch, shopping, and talk."

SUSAN A. (MA-P-0064-63)

Member Tiffany Club of New England. WM, 5'7", considered passable. Interested in TV literature and clothing, especially lingerie. "Would like to correspind with others with similar interests."

JANICE H. (E MA-P-0254-64)

Member TCNE, Tri-Ess, TV Entertainers, NY. Participant Fantasia Fair. Divorced WM, 64, 5'6", 155, blue eyes, brown hair. Goes out as Janice shopping, eating at restaurants, visiting other TVs. Makes friends, but is on the quiet side, writes to many other TVs. "Will answer all letters. Would like to take hormones and live full time as a woman."

HOLLY CROSS (MA-P-0279-99)

IFGE Board of Directors, IFGE Staff. Member TCNE. Participant Tiffany P-town Outing, IFGE Convention, Shangri-La, Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Outing. SWM TV, mid-60's. Lives alone except for a lot of VHF ham gear and about 200 size 20 outfits. Fairly active, goes to many concerts dressed, has been to over 15 outings. Looks like a proper Boston lady, and is having a hell of a good time. "Try to answer all letters, but no guarantee."

AUDREY M. (E MA-0280-65), Neil Moses, Box 66, Allston, MA 02134

Member TCNE. MWM bi-TV, 55, 155, 5'10", nice, intelligent, well adjusted, sense of humor. Enjoys current events, music, sailing, photography, woodworking. Writes TV stories. "Would like to have a few TV friends for casual get-togethers; freedom limited to weekdays 9-6."

SUZANNE C. (E MA-0295-64)

Member TCNE. DWM, over 50, strong TS tendencies. Interests include computers, cooking, being Suzie as much as possible. Would love to be a housewife. "I prefer my feminine self and live at home as a woman, although I still work as a man. Feel completely comfortable and natural as Suzie, always think and act as a woman. Would be delighted to hear from you."

RHONDA SMITH (E MA-NP-0317-64)

Supporting member of IFGE. Attended Tri-Ess conventions, TCNE P-Town Outing. TG, 5'6", 130 pounds, blue-eyes, blonde, nondrinker, nonsmoker. Interested in travel, photography, classical music, and clothing design. "If beauty is in the eye of the beholder, who's holding her?"

SHARON McGRATH (MA-0504-63)

Member TCNE, IFGE. Attended Fantasia Fair and Tiffany Club Provincetown Outings. WM, bi-TS/TV, 40, 5'5", 140, blonde, blue eyes. Interested in makeup, shopping, quiet dinners and evenings, romance, and becoming a woman full-time.

EVE B. (E MA-0508-67)

Member Tri-Ess. Now retired, somewhat handicapped by spinal arthritis. Enjoy dressing at home for relaxation and pleasure. "Friend of

Ariadne Kane, and Virginia Prince visited in my home some years ago. Often invite members to be my guest in a pleasant, suburban home."

HEATHER DAWN ANDERSON (E MA-0661-65)

Member TCNE. MWM, 42, 5'11", 130. Crossdressing since childhood, TS inclinations. Interested in music (rock to classical), songwriting, cooking, running. "I enjoy long walks on the seashore accompanied by intimate conversation and fun."

MARCIA JOHNSON (E MA-0666-62)

Member TCNE. Participant Tiffany Club's Provincetown Outing. 5'9", 140, 42, shoulder-length blond hair. Attractive in-between would like to hear from other in-betweens who enjoy shopping, dining and dancing, and weekend getaways.

JUDITH ANNE THOMPSON (E MA-P-0733-63)

Member TCNE. Widowed WM CD, 70, 5'9", 180, retired, good listener, honest and intelligent. Passes well. Likes photography, sailing Hobie Cats, gardening, good music, living as Judy. "Would like contacts with crossdressers in SE MA area for companionship and like interests."

VALERIE PAULSEN (E MA-P-0780-62), P.O. Box 259, Watertown, MA 02272-0259

Member Tiffany Club of New England. Awards: Fantasia Fair Ms Cinderella '85. Divorced intersexual. 45, 5'11", 145. Enjoy rock and new music, movies, science, SF, night life, dancing, beaches. Never watch TV. Passionate entrepreneurial interest in lasershow technology. "Love to meet someone to share all this with, and maybe more. I don't date men."

LILA WALTON (MA-NP-1381-65), L. Walton, P O Box 36, Harvard MA 01451

For personal description, see Personal Listing in Tapestry issue #60. "Interested in connecting gender people to employers and vice versa. I am establishing a Gender Job Net. Seeking tips on contacting employers. I'm reaching highly talented people."

SUSAN ELIZABETH R. (MA-0839-64)

SWM TV, 53, 6', 180, brown hair, hazel eyes. Interested in photography, treasure hunting, '40's and '50's music, dogs, nature, and being a lady. "I would like to correspond with other girls in E. Mass., especially Metro-West area."

RACHEL L. (MA-0842-62), Boxholder, P O Box 645, Charlestown MA 02129

Attended Fantasia Fair, Be All. "Mature male (late 50's) with TG lifestyle desires to meet persons with TG interests for long-term friendships and possibly shared living arrangement in Boston and/or Provincetown areas. Varied interests and serious discussion desired. Let's explore the mature years together."

SHERYL RHODES (MA-0874-64)

Tall, together T. Bright, frivolous, for real. Candlelight dinners, a walk on the beach. Maube a movie. Yes, I do dance. Love to read. Eclectic interests. Value good friends. Time is the ultimate treasure.

SUE FANON (W MA-0983-63), Boxholder, P O Box 2432, Pittsfield MA 01201

SWM TV, 35, 5'10", 160, brown eyes & hair, easy going, clean, understanding, safe, and sincere. Interested in dressing up & being feminine, travel, music, & friendships. "I am a novice TV who enjoys being feminine. Would like to meet other TVs, TSs and understanding women to help with makeup, wardrobe, femininity, etc. Would consider honest relationship with right person."

EDITH S. (MA-1519-62)

MWM, TS, 48, three children, investment counselor. Interests include squash, tennis, acting, travel, outdoor work, classical music. "I would like to talk with, meet TSs/TVs of similar background and situation to discuss how to cope with spouse, children, job, and M-F transition."

ARLENE SUSAN L. (E MA-NP-1648-65), Arlene S. Lauren, 310 Franklin St. DLD 226, Boston MA 02110

MWM hetero TV, 49, 5'10", 205. "Love dressing completely as a woman. Especially love nylons, heels, and lingerie. Cautiously venturing into beautiful world of femininity, after years in closet. I love my femininity and wish to pursue all aspects of being a woman."

MARGARITA AMANDA R. (E MA-P-1815-63)

Participant Coming Together '90, '91, Be-All '88,'89', 90, '91, Texas 'T' Party '90, '91, '92. Single, 5'10", young looking and thinking. Interested in geography, history, science, photography, classical music (including opera), camping, ing, cooking, gardening, canning, dancing, softball, feminine attire, riding the Boston T crossdressed, skiing, and PEOPLE. NON-SMOKER. Live alone on North Shore of MA. "WRITE--I'll eventually answer."

MICHELLE LANGE (E MA-1008-64), Boxholder, Box 1065, Burlington, MA 01803

MWM, 45. "Enjoy the domestic scene from the servant's point of view, housekeeping, etc. Would enjoy correspondence with others out there who enjoy the same either from the maid's or superior's viewpoint. I collect and write stories on my experiences and fantasies, and would like to share them with others who enjoy this lifestyle. Correspondence must be light, fun, and interesting. Please, no S&M or B&D."

CAROLYN NELSON (E MA-P-1829-63)

Member Tiffany Club of New England. Participant Poconos Weekend. TV, 170, tall, but passes well. Likes very much to go out. Married; wife not supportive. Interested in passing, making lasting friendships with other TV's.

CHRYSTAL RAYMOND (SE MA-P-1923-64)

Member Tiffany Club. Attended Coming Together, Fantasia Fair. Married, 6', 170, 44, CD, with fashionable tastes. Interested in CD videos, crossdressing, sports, developing a support group for CDs in SE MA. "So far I've received inspiration from numerous responses. Will meet soon. Join us! Write now!"

DIANE D. (E MA-1776-63)

5'9", 175, married with children. Interested in MacIntosh computers, aviation, desk-top publishing, fashion. "Would love to hear from other married TVs who have not come out to their wives. Now that we have realized the truth about ourselves, how do we disclose it without making the innocent past a lie?"

KATHY MASTERS
(MA-P-2038-62), Occupant, P O Box 558, Bolton, MA 01740

Early 40's, 5'11", WM Paramedical, loves to help people. "Love balance between masculine and feminine. Secure in masculine world, need security in feminine lifestyle. Honest, perfect shoulder to cry on. Expert in London TV shops. Corsets, maids' costumes, and elegant dressing are my passions. Seek communication, meetings, and help from sisters."

DIANA S. DWYER
(W MA-NP-2146-65), P O Box 4104, Pittsfield MA 01202

"Enjoy dressing as a woman. Am comfortable as either gender, although I rarely go out in public as a woman. Enjoy many aspects of creating a believeable illusion. Wish I had a real woman in my life. Am passable, lonely, and for the most part isolated. Would enjoy responses from warm, sincere, honest people. Am 25, nonsmoker, and a decent letter writer."

CANDY SCOTT (MA-2050-65), P O Box 354, Sagamore MA 02561-0354

Member of Innvestments. Tall redhead/blonde. Interested in photography, reading current events, geo-politics. Helping Innvestments, Cape-area club for Ts of all kinds, to get off the ground. Need more members, supporters from Cape Cod, SE MA, and the Islands.

JAMI DOUGLAS
(OH-NP-2140-65)

Single crossdresser, 5'10", 150, 27. Interested in fitness, shopping, movies. "Would love to hear from other E MA crossdressers. Feel I need to get out of my apartment as Jami, but lack confidence. If you have any advice, drop me a line."

NANCY REYNOLDS
(E MA-P-2160-65)

IFGE Educational Resources Committee Secretary (always wanted to be one . . .) "Walking the scary road towards womanhood: brave on the outside, chicken at heart. Active in IFGE; will never be able to repay our community enough. Workaholic engineer, quiet, but excitable. Lonely single, but blessed with supportive family, friends, and workplace. Love music, singing, playing the guitar. Looking for good songs for our community."

DEBBIE SAWYER
(MA-2170-65)

Member of Tri-Ess, AXA, TCNE, Reflections. 6'2", over 200, early 40's. Interested in fashions and cosmetics, gender politics, Eastern European cultures, and chess. "I'm a caring and nurturing CD interested in expressing the feminine, and in supporting human rights for the gender community."

BOBBIE DAVIES
(W MA-2238-65), P O Box 1518, Pittsfield MA 01201

MWM, 42, hetero. Interested in tennis, martial arts, anything feminine. "Hi! My name is Bobbie. Been a TV as long as I can remember. Love lingerie, negligees, and being a woman. I wear bra and panties every day, and soft silky negligees to bed at night. My wife knows, does not understand, but accepts me as I am. Need to be a woman. Need a pen pal for girl talk. Write soon."

JENNIFER EDWARDS
(SE MA-P-2249-62)

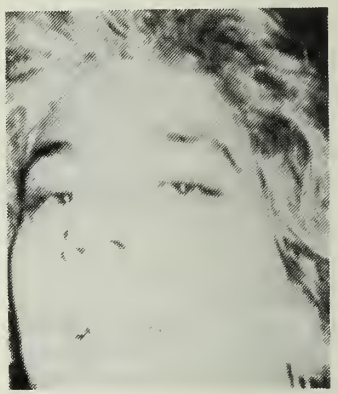
Participant Fantasia Fair, Paradise in Poconos, IFGE Convention. In 60's, 5'10", 150, 16. Interested in sewing, writing fiction and nonfiction, photography, computers, sailing, gardening, and wines. "Eager to write and meet others of all interests. Would like to form Cape Cod area group."

JOY SPENCER (MA-2530-63)

Married with supportive wife. Just 40. "Have crossdressed for as long as I can remember, have only recently begun to move through the fear and guilt. Like to correspond with individuals or couples traveling the road to acceptance. Have adopted the name Joy because that is what I hope to find with acceptance."

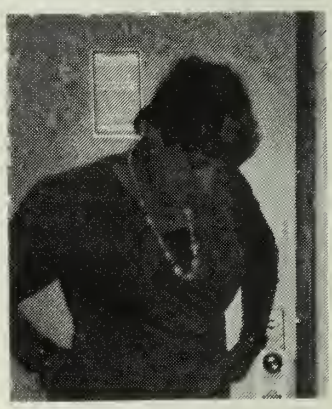
SYLVIA FASHIONS
(MA-2430-63), 54 Hazard Ave Suite 302, Enfield CT 06082

"Older TV loves to dress up, but not into extensive makeup or passing in public. Have good legs. Interested in fetish and bondage, but basically a sensitive and caring person. Love high heels, both yours and mine. Also like wasp waists and fashion belts. Willing to share large collection of self-videos. Contact outside the Hartford-Springfield area difficult."



JENNIFER M.
(SE MA-NP-2585-65)

35, 5'10", WM, bi-TV, TS tendencies, brown hair, brown eyes. Interested in meeting others. "Have been crossdressing since childhood. Enjoy being feminine. Would like to hear from TV/TSs. Send photo and phone number so we can get together. Will return all letters."



RISE CARMEN
(NE MA-NP-2615-65), Boxholder, P O Box 13, Essex MA 01929

MWM, Bi, middle-aged closet TV. Adores femme dressing and lingerie. "Wife objects to my crossdressing, so I seek the friendship of a sympathetic and supportive woman, and other TVs for correspondence and meetings. Prefer NE MA, SO NH, SO ME. No racial or color barriers."

MARIE ALLEN (E MA-2729-63)

Member Tiffany Club of New England. 5'10", 190. Interested in golf, computers, designing clothes, modeling outfits, hostessing with a friend. "Am somewhat out of the closet, have passed (I think) on several occasions. Write TV fantasies about boys who are encouraged to wear girls' clothes by one or both parents. The heroines wind up loving it and becoming the parents' daughter."

DIANE C. (E MA-2754-64)

46, married heterosexual crossdresser. "My major interests are fashion (I have an extensive collection of fashion magazines and videos) and the arts, especially literature and ballet. My rôle models are ladies who lunch. I would love to form a small group in the Boston area to meet privately once a month for Sunday afternoon tea and conversation. I am also an avid letter writer and welcome correspondence."

TRACI S. (MA-NP-2942-65)
Box 143, Medway MA 02053

SW pre-op TS, 31, 5'2", 110, brunette, hazel eyes, 3. Hormones since 10/91. SRS by '94. College educated business executive. Enjoy most aspects of life now that I am on the right track! Interested in arts, aviation, boating, dining, gourmet cooking, music, skiing, and travel. Would love to correspond with TSs for mutual support. This journey can be lonely and frightening."

SHARON LOVELY (MA-P-3122-62), P O Box 235, Worcester MA 01613

Member Tiffany Club of New England. 5'6", medium build, blue eyes, black hair, 29, WM, bi TV. Interested in dressing, fishing, and shopping. "Would like to have a sisterly relationship with a TV my age. Will correspond with TVs too far away to meet."

KAY LEE (MA-2787-63)

MWM, 6', 185, mid 40's, hetero. Married to understanding wife, but not in her presence. Interested in body building, sailing, learning about my feminine self. "Have been dressing since twelve, but have not had a full dressing experience. Spent last year in therapy looking for who I am. Just joined a group. Am finding out about the real me and wish to correspond with others who find this as much of a struggle as I do. As the song says, 'Let it Be.'"

JOAN R. (E MA-2841-65)

Member TCNE. "I am a very fortunate TG to have such a wonderful spouse, friends, and support."

MICHELLE C. (MA-3139-62), Occupant, P O Box 801, Marlboro MA 01752

DWM, 5'9", 165, brown eyes, long black hair. Interested in shopping, makeup, projecting better image. "Drifted away for a few years, would now like to pick up where I left off. Like to become an active member of our society again, meet and correspond with others with feminine interests. Please write."

DENISE S. (MA-P-3143-62), Boxholder, P O Box 1731, Wakefield MA 01880

DWM, CD, 40, 5'8", 140. Interested in nature, gardening, tennis, acceptance of life path. "Need courage and support to get out of closet. Wish to meet accepting women, TV/TSs in area for friendship, development of inner and outer woman. Want to learn to deal with these desires, and to integrate the two different people I am. Looking for compatible TV/TS to share living space on North Shore."

ALYCIA DAVIS (MA-3210-63)

Member IFGE. Attended Fantasia Fair '91 - Ms Cinderella. Pre-op M-F TS, 5'9", 145, 42. Interested in oil painting, guitar, writing. "Just starting 'my' life. Wish to meet or correspond with others traveling the same path, or who have arrived."

APRIL SUZANNE H. (MA-3216-62), A. S. Hilliard, P O Box 1044, Charlton City MA 01508-1044

MWM, 35, TV/TS, 5'10", 155, CD since age 5. Happily married, supportive spouse, no children. Interested in being femme, hiking, motorsports, music, reading, and science. "Intelligent, friendly, and caring. Dress constantly at home, occasionally in public. Would like to become more involved in the TV/TS community, and get out more. Please write."

ROBERTA STEEL (MA-P-3247-62), P O Box 149, Hadley MA 01035

Member CT Outreach Society, TCNE. 6'5", 20, 49, firmly married TV. Interested in steam engines, model railroading, dress making, a Western Mass TV/TS support group. "On way out of closet and enjoy expressing my femininity rather than suppressing it. Like to hear from TV/TSs, especially those who would like to get together as a group in Western Mass."

SHERI BELMORE (W-MA-P-3378-63), P O Box 1864, Pittsfield MA 01202

Member of the Sunshine Group. WDM, TV, 35, understanding, open-minded, single parent of three. Love getting out and having fun. Clean and sober six years. "Would like to meet and make friends in the CD community. Seek genetic female for serious relationship. Please write, will answer all."

KEVIN M. (MA-3277-63)

29, attractive, SWM. Interested in bicycling, hiking, camping out, sports, and history. "Former gender dysphoric empathetic to transsexual issues. Seeking transsexual for permanent relationship."

ALICE W. (MA-3279-62)

SWM, 5'8", 160, 35. Interested in reading, cooking, music, and hiking. "Crossdressing since childhood. Still in closet, but willing to explore. Like to correspond and possibly meet. Will answer all letters."

TINA R. (MA-3407-63)

WM, CD, 5'8", 26, brown eyes, brown hair, size 12. "Have been dressing since about age twelve. Finally accepting this side of me and anxious to experience more of the role of a woman. Looking to meet someone special to share the different possibilities. Very passable, but need encouragement and help from another dresser to go out with and take photos, etc."

JULIE P. (MA-3491-63)

Married CD, 160, 5'7", 30, passable, hetero. Interested in photography, art, travel, shopping. "Married to an understanding wife, but need to make friends in the gender community. Honest, discreet, and caring. Wish to correspond with CDs for support and friendship. Would like to meet others in W MA area to help me with my first night out. Please write."

RHODE ISLAND (027- 029-)

ANDREA K. (RI-P-1771-63)

5'10", 155, brown eyes, long brown hair, semi-androgynized. Interested in SF, investing, metaphysics, dressing up full time like a woman, movies, video. "I am willing to meet other TV/CD/TSs and talk about things like lingerie, high heels, hosiery, makeup, and becoming a full-time woman, to be known as a woman, and treated as one."

CAROL L. SUNDERLAND (RI-1413-64)

Blonde, 5'9", 157. Interested in backgammon, reading. "For the last eight years I have lived and worked as a woman. My goal is to be able to inform the TV/TS community about the methods I use to pass."

GWENDOLYN ALYNNA SPENCER (RI-P-2207-62),
P O Box 3453, Newport RI 02840

Participant Coming Together. 5'9", brown hair, blue eyes, volunteer at IFGE office. Interested in reading, history, sailing, dancing, camping, and martial arts. "Like long walks on the seashore and in the woods. Interested in contacting other Wiccans. Also starting a support group in RI."

STEPHANIE S. (RI-NP-2693-64)

5'11", 35, 18. "Had a tough year. Back in closet suffering from existential Angst! Need friends to help with anxiety and self-acceptance. Deep-seated need to express femme side. Need the support of friends and a push or two or three. Would love to hear from others like Nancy Cole who have blended dressing into their lives. Trying hard to answer all correspondence. Love to you all."

JULIE WATERS (RI-3340-62),
PO Box 23040, Providence RI 02903

Founder TRANSGEN computer network. Feminist pre-op transsexual with interest in progressive music, cinema, and theater. "Would love to form an acting/performing group progressive in gender/sexuality issues. Drop me a line."

MARCIE P. (RI-3432-63)

Married, 5'5", 180, 18, wife doesn't accept. Interested in SCUBA diving, dressing, cooking, being feminine. "Would love to meet others in northern RI, SE MA, singles or couples."

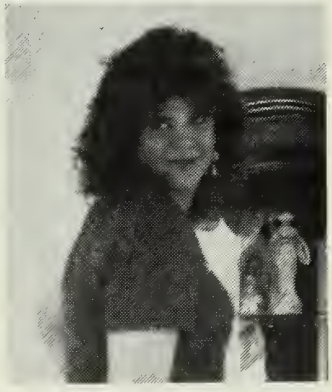
NEW HAMPSHIRE (030- 038-)

CAROL E. DURETTE (NH-0890-62), C. E. Durette, P O Box 3706, Manchester NH 03105

"Hello out there! I'm looking for a soulmate who likes today's country music, home cooking, cats, and the 'feminine condition.' Be you male or female, if you like TS gals, please write to me by all means. I'll answer all letters promptly. Photos would be appreciated."

ANNE MARIE B. (NH-NP-0844-64)

Member Tri-Ess. Age 81, M, retired physician. Interested in music (flute), wildlife, woodworking, computers. "Crossdresser for more than sixty-five years, out in public many times, years ago. Now an old lady and contented home-body. My dear wife accepts, but takes no joy in my seeking of a feminine image."



MONICA WHITNEY (NH-P-1528-62)

TV, 30ish, 6', statuesque build. Interested in sports, photography, music, being Monica. "Love the feeling that being Monica brings to me. Looking for supportive sisters to correspond and meet with. Just need a little nudge to get me through the closet door. If possible, send photo."

JODI B. (NH-1457-62)

WM TV, 30's, 6', 200. Interested in athletics, linguistics, beekeeping, running, ephemera, gadgetry, and history. "Adventurous, curious, open-minded individual new to area seeks contacts with people in our community who have humor, compassion, and discretion."

DIANE O. (NH-1476-65)

WM TV, 5'6", blue eyes, brown hair. Interested in everything from a to z. "Looking for a TV, TS, or GG who would like to help me finally get out and do things. Am in need of a friend. Please send photo and phone. Will answer all."

KERRI R. (NH-1095-64)

Attended Coming Together '90, '91, '92, Fantasia Fair '89, '90, '91, Tiffany P'town Outing '88, '89, '90, '91. TCNE Rep in Congress of Representatives, IFGE Marketing Coordinator, Nominating Committee, Finance Committee. DWM, 6'1". "Proud of my duality, and glad to be a part of our community. Enjoy meeting old friends and making new contacts."

ALISON H. (formerly MICHELLE HALL) (NH-P-2490-63)

Member TCNE. Participant Coming Together '90. Awards Miss Cinderella, Fantasia Fair, '90. S, 5'9", 140, 41, trim, fit, and passable. Quiet, sensitive, articulate, excited about exploring my female self. "Aerobatics pilot, artist, software engineer, and writer. Enjoy meeting intelligent, articulate, sensitive people, and have made many new friends through my gender exploration."

RACHEL E. (NH-3760-64),
P O Box 2376, Salem NH 03079

MWM, 49, 5'4", size 9, TV. Avid skier, diver and beach person. "Privately dressing for 20 years and have recently discovered TCNE, IFGE, et al. Am experimenting with the total look for future outside ventures. Am at the nervous and excited stage. Wife is supportive in private setting, not sure of her reaction to anything beyond the front door. Seeking personal dialogue and advice. Will answer all."

DANIE M. (NH-P-3161-62),
P O Box 16161, Hooksett NH 03106-6161

Blonde, blue eyed, petite, 5'7", 127, 8/9, leggy, passable TV, with ultra femme figure. Interested in music, female behavior and grooming. "Have wonderful male/female friends who understand and appreciate me as a 'woman.' Would like to hear from anyone interested in general change. Will try to answer all."

MAINE (038- 047-)

LYNDA ANNE V. (ME-3007-65)

Member TransSupport. MWM, TS, 5'9", 50's, fair, blue eyes. Interested in writing, classical music, singing, Romantic novels, boating, shooting, and swimming. "Crossdressed since early age, often out in last twelve years. Passable, but family situation and small town location prevent my going out locally. Seeking TV/TS girlfriends, mid-coast area or lower ME with whom to dress or correspond."

VERMONT (050- 059-)

HELENE H. (VT-P-2021-65)

Participant Tiffany P-town Outing, Tiffany Winter Outing, Poconos Weekend Miss Congeniality '91, Texas T-party. 5'10" "Enjoying my female self no

end, and getting better all the time. Out of the closet regularly. Kids and young girls read me but who cares? Like to hear from others. I answer all mail promptly."

JILLALISON G. (VT--3437P-63)

S CD, 33, 5'11", brown hair and eyes, passable, shave body (hate body hair), in closet, but want out. Interested in board sailing, biking, cooking, walks, sunsets, and dressing. "Like to meet and correspond with CDs, TVs, TSs, GGs, and pretty boys. Am clean and discreet and expect the same. Photo appreciated."

Jill Alison G. (VT-3437)

CONNECTICUT (060- 069-)

CARLA GOLDSNIDER (CT-P-0212-64)

SWM, hetero TV, 5'10". Love to cross-dress. Like to meet couples and females for girl talk and friendships. Live alone in a small house in the country."

RENEE CARROLL (CT-0292-63)

Member NWGA, Crossroads. SWM hetero TV, 40+, 6'+. Interests range from American history to the causes of transgenderism. Other pursuits include cooking, travel, outdoors, photography.

RACHEL F. BOYCE (CT-1903-63), P O Box 985, Windsor CT 06095

Member Tiffany Club, CT Outreach Society. Participant Tiffany's P-town Outing, Fantasia Fair, Coming Together. 6'2", married, 2 adult sons, wife supportive. Interested in music, dancing, dining, shopping, and movies. "Love to dress for shopping at major malls. Have attended movies, theater and restaurants while fully crossdressed. Will answer all."

RAMONA G. (S CT-P-1948-64), P O Box 171, Montville CT 06353

Member of TCNE. Attended Fantasia Fair '88-'91, Tiffany Club Spring Outing, Awards Banquets '89-'91, Miss Provincetown, 1991. 64, 5'11", 180, MWM, hetero TV. Supportive wife and daughter. "Just love going to outings and letting the Lady inside of me out for days at a time, shopping en femme. Things that make me strongest as a male are the results of crossdressing and being Ramona."

ANDREA G. (CT-0425-63)

Married, 51, 5'11, 170. Interested in sports, good food, reading. "Would like to develop friendships in the crossdressing community, and welcome correspondence."

DARLENE S. ROSS (CT-0838-62), 167 Cherry St, Suite 114, Milford CT 06460

MWM, hetero CD, 5'8", 168, 60, retired, quiet and sincere. Love all things feminine. Wife knows, but is not supportive. Interested in sports, travel, music, and reading. "Not passable, but working on it. Discreet letters with photo will be answered with same."

DAWN H. (CT-0858-64)

Attended Fantasia Fair '84-'91, Coming Together '90. 5'10", 150, 46 years young. Sincere and caring. Interested in sewing own and others' clothing, '50's & '60's music and cars, water skiing, reading, and cooking. "It's been a long time to decide, but I know where I am going. S.O. and family know. Starting transition. Would like to hear from others."

MICHELLE KAY (CT-1490-66), P O Box 679, Avon CT 06001

Married, hetero, 5'10", blue eyes, light brown hair, late 40's. "Quiet and sincere. Enjoy cross country skiing, music, theater, and travel. Looking for honest, caring, helpful crossdressers."

Michelle Kay, P O Box 679, Avon CT 06001 (CT-1490)

RONI THOMPSON (CT-2477-62), Ron Thompson, Box 5962 Bayview Station Bridgeport CT 06610

Masculine, muscular, professional male. "Would love to wine, dine, and dance with any passable TV/TS who would like a sympathetic, empathetic escort to highlight their femininity."

LORI Z. (CT-2610-63)

6', 190, 60's. Healthy, educated, with a sensuous attitude. "Like to share my femininity with TV/TS females and couples. Please write so we can explore our femininity together."

DIANE D. (CT-NP-2962-65)

Member COS. SWM TV, 18/20 ultra tall, 38. Interested in golf, skiing, seven years 12 step experience. "Have been dressing fully over one year, now, and have made lots of great friendships, and growing wardrobe. Like to hear from all, especially tall sisters out there."

MICHELLE WINTERS (CT-P-3221-63)

Member of Tri-Ess. Attended Holiday En Femme '88, Be All '89, '90. Awarded Youngest Member Tri-Ess '88. Hetero TV, 21, 5'8", 125, very passable. Interested in music, reading Sci-Fi and fantasy, astronomy. "Looking to correspond and meet with other TV/TSs my own age for friendship and going out en femme. Am very caring and understanding, and would like to help others with accepting their special gift."

TREVOR ALEXANDER (CT-2886-64)

Sharp, SWM, 34, post-op TS (both operations), 5'7", 165, blonde, beard. Interested in personal growth, comedy, discussion, movies, music, nature, art, fun, fitness, & sports. "Like to make contact with: MTF TS, post- or pre-op (as long as full-time with plans), for friendship and possible relationship; GM, TV/CDs for friendship & support, & women; and other FTMs & professional researchers."

ANDREA STEVENS (CT-NP-3214-63)

Member COS. Hetero CD, 5'8", 155, early 40's, happily married, quiet and sincere professional. Interested in competetive running and cycling, reading, golf, and skiing. "Like heels, hose, petticoats, and pretty dresses. Wife aware and tolerant. She tries to understand, but is not enthusiastic. Like to hear from couples and other members of the community with a balanced approach to crossdressing."

HEATHER M. (CT-3218-62), N. Milles, P O Box 4124, Yalesville CT 06492

Bi SWM. Interested in dressing, pool, making friends. "Coming out this time for real. Like to meet all interested in becoming friends and supporters."

JOHANNA B. (CT-3759-64), P O Box 1877, New London CT 06320

TV, 50, 6'6", brown hair, green eyes. Interested in classical music, computers, movies, Star Trek. "Love all things feminine, still in closet, but trying to get out. Looking

for a very supportive SO. Would like to meet and correspond with other very tall CD/TVs (6'5" or over). Love my femininity, and wish to pursue all aspects of being a woman."

JACKIE ELLIS (CT-P-3301-62), Box 1226, New Britain CT 06050

Bi-WTV, mid-40's, tall and slim, passable but shy. Loves to go out dressed and take photos and videos. "Ex-pro musician working as an engineer, but first love is dressing up. Would like to correspong, swap photos, and meet other TVs."

NEW JERSEY (070- 088-)

SUZIE M. (N NJ-0686-67)

MWM, late 40's, Bi-TV, 6'1", loves lingerie, nylons, and high heels. "Have been dressing all my life. Would like to meet other bi sisters to share fantasies."

AMANDA BARNETT (NJ-P-1060-64), P O Box 110116, Nutley NJ 07110

5'7", 10, 145, 50, red hair, green eyes. Interested in writing, history. "Would like to correspond and exchange photos and share true life experiences."

ELISE P. (NJ-2391-62)

SWM, 31. "Shy, scared, but taking my first steps out of my cocoon. Love to hear from anyone who has the desire, and patience to help Elise fully emerge. Other interests include Medieval art and culture, Fellini films, SF fantasy books, and ballet. Will reply to all."

ELENA LEWIS (NJ-P-1200-64)

Member Metropolitan Gender Network. S TV, trim and petite, late 30's. Intelligent, sensitive, demure, and affectionate. Active in NY area gender community. Enjoy dining and cultural activities. "Enjoy dating mature men. Knowing how limited prospects can be, seek other sisters to share interests. No heavy tobacco smoke."

KATHERINE II. (N NJ-P-2073-64)

Member TGIC. Participant Fantasia Fair, IFGE Convention, Be All, Coming Out, Spring Fling. 6', brown hair, pre-op TS. Loves music, humor, corresponding, and helping others. "Do stand-up comedy, Broadway poetry, and all things feminine. Rap group moderator. Love to travel, housework, gardening, talking, and answering letters."

SHARON DAVIDSON (N NJ-P-2342-62)

Member the Gathering. 46, pre-op TS, married, wife very accepting. Nine-year-old son loves Sharon. Interested in family and drum and bugle corps. "Therapy and hormones soon. Like to meet and write to other TSs, particularly in Northern NJ. Will help all I can. Live mostly as Sharon."

LISA MARTIN (N NJ-P-1853-64)

Attended Fantasia Fair '90 & '91. "MWM, 6'1", 175, CD. Choose to nurture female side of my nature, love feminine dressing, especially heels. Like to correspond for mutual sharing, support, and possible shopping and club outings. Glass is half full. Other interests include psychology, shopping, running, tennis, dancing, and the beach."

TERRY M. (S NJ-P-2400-62)

Member Renaissance. Participant Poconos Weekend, Paradise in the Poconos. SM CD, 37, 5'8", brown eyes & hair. "Grateful to be out of the closet. Have enjoyed much growth and self-acceptance through interaction and sharing with other gender people."

KIM JOHNSON (NJ-3037-65)

5'9", 155. Interested in running, computers, sports, coaching Special Olympics. "Am a married hetero male. Crossdressing ever since I can remember. Would enjoy meeting others in area to make some new friends."

KATHI LEIGH H. (NJ-3024-65)

SWM, 39, 5'11", 175, brown hair, blue eyes, considered cute by friends. Interested in fishing, photography, new age music, nature walks, biking, and quiet evenings at home. "Mostly in the closet CD. Go out once in awhile at night, dressed. Wish to meet or hear from TV/TS or GG to help. Shy and easy to get along with."

JOANNE MICHELLE W. (NJ-P-2944-64)

Member Tri-Ess. Bi SWM, TV, 35, 6'3", 220. Brown hair and eyes. Pass well. Open-minded, sincere. Interested in photography, writing, everything feminine, horror movies, and shopping. "Like to correspond/meet other TVs, TSs to be the lady I am. Like to hear from members of the TG community. Seek to come out. Photo would help."

JODIE H. (NJ-P-3136-62)

SWM, hetero, late thirties, 5'10", 155, 10-12. Interested in love jazz, old movies, cars, stereos, dining out. "Been crossdressing my whole life. Still in the closet, but wish to pass. Love to meet other TV/TSs for friendship and get-togethers in NJ-NYC area. Will write or phone all who respond promptly."

BABS C. (NJ-3219-62)

Attended Paradise in the Poconos. MWM, late 40's. Supportive and understanding loving wife. Interested in twentieth century art, music, standardbred horses, tennis, decorating, and shopping. "As my alter ego I find contentment and excitement, and escape from stress, whether as my

own woman, or as my wife's submissive."

DONNA R. (NJ-3270-62)

Member Renaissance. 5'10", blue eyes, 41, MWM, CD. Interested in psychology, outdoor activities, camping, hiking fishing, dressing. "Dressing since childhood, but only now working on acceptance and getting out of the closet. Love lingerie. Like to write about interests and experiences. Want to work on total look, and meet other sisters."

PORSCHEA ANN P. (NJ-P-3297-63)

5'5", 140, mid 20's, 7/9 & slim. Dance to 50's and house music. Interested in hot-rod cars, road racing, and dressing up club style. "Goal is to pass. Any young TV/TSs in the area who could help? Will take advice. Look forward to corresponding with TV/TSs and women."

KAREN KEYES (NJ-P-3309-62), P O Box 141, Chester NJ 07930

MWM, TV, 43, 5'11", 175. "Married CD with supportive wife. Attractive and feminine when dressed. We want to meet other TV couples for friendship and socializing. Can travel or entertain. Let's dress together. Will answer all. Photo appreciated. Sorry, no singles."

CHRISTIE R. (NJ-3319-63)

MWM, mid 50's, 6'3", 185, TV with TS tendencies. Interested in literature, classical music and jazz, gardening. "Still in the closet, but want out. Find it increasingly difficult to go it alone. Need help in makeup. Wife knows, but doesn't understand. Will write, but nervous about meeting. Picture available."

DENISE S. (NJ-P-3342-62)

Done live fashion shows, photography, and magazines. 5'9", 135, hazel green eyes. Interested in being a woman and meeting women. "Taking female hormones many years. Love sharing ideas as well as shopping with women. Would love to work part time as Denise. Willing to train and/or learn more. Bi-females welcome."

AMANDA BARNETT (NJ-3346-64), P O Box 110116, Nutley NJ 07110

5'7", 10, 145, 50, red hair, green eyes. Interested in writing, history. "Would like to correspond and exchange photos and share true life experiences."

JANE T. (S. NJ-3487-62)

MWM, hetero TV, 6', 200, 48. Interests include crossdressing, latex, living in the closet, and correspondence. "I will answer all in short order."

CYNTHIA WARREN (NJ-3574-63), P O Box 6372, Bridgewater NJ 08807

45, widower. "Occasional CD from age four. Partner knew and disapproved. Now coming out more. Would like to meet F-M CD for rôle reversal."

DORIS C. (NJ-3643-64)

5'7", thin, cute, well-educated, good writer. "Since dressing in younger sister's clothing as a child, the attraction to dressing in teen and pre-teen clothing has only gotten stronger. Also love women's clothes. Would love to write all with similar interests. Were you forced to dress as a child, encouraged to pursue interests at home? Will answer promptly and trade experiences."

NEW YORK (090-149-)

WINNIE BRANT (N NY-P-0228-62), Mr. W. Brant, Box 741, Schenectady NY 12301

Member Tiffany, Tri-Ess, TGIC. Awards Miss Fantasia Fair. Hetero TV, 50+, 6'2". A lady. Has many interests. Scientifically and culturally oriented. Loves to travel.

ANGELA S. (W NY-P-0719-63)

Member EON, TVA. Participant Tiffany Couples' Weekend, Joyce Dewhurst Poconos Outings, Coming Together. Awards EON Pioneer Award. 5'10", 190, brown hair, blue eyes, 40's. "Enjoy being a complete person. Sometimes passable, other times - who cares! Very active in W NY. Founder of EON."

CONNIE TAYLOR (W NY-0434-63), Box 0734, Jamestown NY 14702

Member Tri-Ess, Phoenix Society, Elaine Barrie Project. MWM, elderly, hetero TV, 5'5", 125, supportive wife. Likes clean-cut clothes and tall heels. Loves to correspond. "If you need somebody to talk to, just write. All letters promptly answered."

RENEE' SLOCUM (W NY-0651-64), P O Box 977, Geneva NY 14456

Member CD-Network. SWM, 5'11", 160, hetero, 34, college educated. Interested in photography, ballet, R and R oldies, antiques. "Like to hear from CDs in Geneva and Finger Lakes area. CD for over 20 years. Not passable, but enjoy private feminine get-togethers. Like to hear from women interested in CDs."

CAMILE A. M. McLAUGHLIN (NY-0582-63)

Member Tri-Ess, Chi Delta Mu, TCNE, among others.

DELORES MERHIGE (SE NY-P-0808-64), D. Merhige, P.O. Box 327, Massapequa Park NY 11762

Member Chi Delta Mu (past president), LIFE, Serenity. Attended Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E (1st runner-up, Miss Poconos), Coming Together. Married, middle-aged, 5'10", engineer, lifelong TV. Interested in fashion, photography, classic bebop, science, sailing, biking, tennis, autos, and being outdoors. "I love the fun part of the scene, and derive a lot of pleasure from it."

VICKIE STONE (SE NY-P-1035-63), Box 31, Hempstead NY 11551

Member LIFE, Chi Delta Mu. Hetero TV, 6', 185, attorney. Hobbies include writing (published in Femme Mirror & Femanine, editor Lifelines), music (former pro musician - guitar & bass). Still enjoys song-writing. Home recordist, avid photographer. Seeks fellow TV ski bums to ski NY, MA & VT. Enjoys NYC night clubs. Responds sooner or later. Enjoys helping novices.

JODIE PAULINO (W NY-0973-63), P O Box 15731, Rochester NY 14615

Member Rochester CD-Network, Tri-Ess. 43, happily married 20 years, 2 children, engineer. Interested in family, video,

photography, cinema, gardening, swimming, computers (Prodigy Member). "Told wife in '86. She understands but does not accept. Enjoy meeting and helping new members of the Rochester CD Network."

JANALYCE V. (NYC-P-1187-64)

Member Tri-Ess. Participant Poconos Weekend, Tri-Ess Holiday En Femme. S 43, 5'11", 195. Interested in opera, classical music, shows, long-distance running. "Enjoy being out as a lady to the opera and museums. Also shopping and nights out at comfortable cabarets and restaurants in Manhattan. Let's share experiences."

JOAN FASHIONS (N NY-NP-1220-65), P O Box 1756 S Rd Annex, Poughkeepsie NY 12603

Participant Tiffany Club Spring Outing, CDI/NYC meetings, Club Allure. MWM TV/TG, 50's, retired. "Live mostly full time. Travel NYC/NJ area as normal, everyday woman. Family grown and understanding. Letters with photo from individuals with similar interests will receive prompt response."

JULIE ANN C. (N NY-1695-62)

Member TGIC. Attended Fantasia Fair '78, '88, '89, '90. Hetero TV, 52, 5'9". Interested in family, hiking, camping, SF.

JUDITH W. BROWNING (NY-1678-63)

White, 5'7", 350, 49, health conscious. "Seek the right M, F, or couple to treat me as the total woman I could be. No drugs. Please send detailed letter with picture and phone."

JUDY H. (NY-1920-64), J. Holhower, P O Box 370, New York NY 10150-0370

Member of LIFE. 43, married. Interested in military history, SF. "Looking for a friend to talk to, work on improving image, etc."

LAURA STONE (W NY-1924-63), P O Box 482, Amherst NY 14226

Member of CD Network. Attended Coming Together '91. 5'11", 13, TV, married. Interested in movies, arts, fashion. "Interested in correspondence, but am limited in time."

CONSTANCE LEE (W NY-P-1929-64), C. Lee, P O Box 368, Derby NY 14047-0368

DWM, 40. Interested in computers, chess, and writing sisters. "Love being a Big Sister, sharing hopes, dreams, and special moments. Love to correspond. Will help with advice and listen when asked to be a friend. Please write."

VICTORIA LOUISE NORRELL (SE-P-1960-NY) (#62)

"Am Victoria and I love life. With care I will effect my destiny, helping those I can along the way. Dress, shop, dine, travel, go to concerts. I enjoy 'tinplate' railroading, and in love with a beautiful woman named Carla. 'I can never be a woman, but I will never be anything less than a lady.'"

CHRISTINA SCHULTZ (LI NY-1981-64), Chris S., Box 233, Lindenhurst NY 11757

Single, hetero TV. Early 30's, 5'8", 140. Interested in rock and classical music, SF, and computers. "Been dressing since childhood, but still need help working on my feminine image. Looking to make some new friends."

KATHERINE H. (NY-2073-64)

Member of TGIC in Albany. Attended Fantasia Fair '89 & '90, Be All, Coming Out & Spring Fling in Albany. Was on "People are Talking" in Boston. 6', brown hair, pre-op TS. "Love music, humor, corresponding with and helping others. I do stand up comedy, Broadway poetry, and interested in all things feminine."

LILIAN FRANK (NYC NY-2230-62)

Long-time CD, 45. "Would like to meet or correspond with any TVs or TSs (M-F or F-M) who feel there might be a 'spiritual dimension' to their condition."

DEE DEE ANN SUMMERS (SE NY-P-2246-62), P O Box 4462, Great Neck NY 11021

Member of LIFE. 5'11", 165, blue eyes, 29, heterosexual CD with supportive wife. Enjoy dancing in NYC nightclubs, meeting and helping other CD's. "Been a CD as long as I can remember. Came to terms with my feminine self a few years ago, and have been happier ever since. It's been a long, hard road, but worth it."

MARJORIE THOMAS (NYC-P-2266-62)

Member Chi Delta Mu. Attended Poconos weekend. SWM, 36, 5'7", 135. Interested in sports, classic rock, and taping drag on the tube. "Most comfortable dealing with dual personalities like mine. Like to correspond and meet with other TVs, and understanding women. Discrete, and do not want to hear from men."

JENNIFER B. (LI NY-2441-63)

MWM, mid 40's, 5'9", TV. Interested in metaphysics, psychology, reading, fashions. "Recently married; wife very supportive. Love lingerie, corsets, feminine costumes and fantasies. Seek meetings and correspondence with TVs and TSs or anyone with like interests. Live on Long Island."

ALEXANDRA McKAY (NYC-2466-62), P O Box 140297, Staten Island NY 10314

Member CT Outreach. 41, 6', 245, white. Seeks friends in Staten Island, Elizabeth, Bayonne, NYC, Brooklyn, Queens. Enjoy classical music, war games, SF & computers.

VERONICA MARTIN (N NY-P-2482-62)

Member TGIC. SWM, hetero TV, 5'9", 160. "The ultimate in femininity is dressing up in a square dance dress with a full petticoat and ruffled sissy panties. Want to meet understanding females."

JANET LANG (NY-P-2539-63)

SWM, 43, 5'9", 160, non-smoker, TV. Possibly bi. Soft-

spoken feminine, discreet, attractive dresser. Interested in current events, electronics, reading, sewing, malls, TV-TS publications, lingerie, and heels. "Seek women or passable TS's for friendship, dating, shopping, traveling as girls, and girl talk. Will date as a man, or could date a man. Prefer Queens, Long Island area."

MARSHA WINGER (NYC-2491-62), H. Winston, P O Box 1311, Wall St. Sta., NY NY 10268-1311

Member Girl's Night Out, NYC, Tri-Ess. 40, Jewish, married, hetero TV. Interested in reading, especially history, and collecting unusual lamps. "Enjoy crossdressing, but I cannot do it much. Wife knows and is against it. She is Latin American, I need a Spanish-speaking wife or friend of a CD to explain it to her."

SHARON ANN STUART (NY-NP-2848-64)

Member of Tri-Ess, TGIC. Attended Dreams, Texas T Party, Fall Harvest, was Miss Dream Community, 1977. MWM, 6', 165, 61, 14, blue eyes, brunette or redhead. "CD since age four. Virginia Prince let me out of the closet in 1968. Go out often. I write TV fiction and poetry. Wife tolerates, but rarely participates."

NANCY ANN HOWES (W NY-P-2851-64), P O Box 16127, Rochester NY 14616

Member Tri-Ess, CD Network, TCNE. MWM, 45, married to a supportive wife. Been dressing all my life. Interested in movies, Hollywood, music, sports. "Willing to exchange ideas, and photos with others who enjoy all that is feminine. Will respond quickly. No sex letters. Let's talk girl talk!"

VICTORIA MARIE W. (LI NY-2597-63)

SWM, 6', hetero, size 16. Interested in SF, computers, tropical fish, trains. "Out of the closet, but not out of the house. Willing to write to any who advertise here."

LYNN K. (NY-2735-64), P O Box 1172, Amherst NY 14226

5'7", 35, 135, TS. Interested in photography, sailing, making new friends, reading. "Recently emerged TS. Would like to meet other GGs, TVs, or TSs to share ideas on dressing, getting out, shopping. Developing my female persona toward being a woman 100% of the time. All responses answered."

DORIS KRESS (NY-P-2861-64)

Member Chi Delta Mu, Renaissance. 42. Interested in gardening, cooking, reading, jazz. "Married to a supportive, loving wife. Try to get out as much as possible, but I want to improve my femme self. Interested in hearing from others similarly situated, especially those in Long Island, New York City, and New Jersey."

CHRISTINA LEIGH (NY-P-2895-64), P O Box 285, Woodside NY 11377

Member LIFE. MWM, hetero CD, 30, 6', 170, blue eyes, auburn hair, 14. Interested in reading, history, politics, current events, the seashore, and developing my femininity. "Guilt-free and accepting of myself for six months. Wife knows, but not accepting. This limits activities. Want to write others in similar situations."

SANDI T. (NYC-2902-65), Box D8, 496-A Hudson St., NY NY 10014

Member Metamorphosis. 5'11", blond with blue-green eyes, 130, 8, very feminine pre-op TS. "Enjoy the exciting chemistry of the male-female relationship. Am looking for an affectionate, decent man over 6' for a long-term relationship."

CAROL TAYLOR (C NY-P-2910-64)

Member EON, TCNE. Participant Tiffany P-Town WSG (6 yrs.), Coming Together '90. MWM, 40-something, 5'9", 160, 16. Interested in femininity, writing (about CD), boating. "Married to a supportive (but not delighted) wife. Love the feminine and enjoy corresponding. Like to share photos. Believe this should be enjoyable."

JENNIFER LISETTE MARTIN (LI-NY-P-2920-64)

Brown hair, blue eyes, 5'15", 22-24, tall, MWM, CD, professional, nonsupportive wife. "Envy you who pass. Jennifer loves to dress up in her best, would really like to correspond or meet with others. Enjoy outdoor sports, boating, golf, skiing, gardening, and reading. Need support of the experienced to become the woman I wish to be."

KIM CODY (NY-P-2927-65)

MWM, 40's, 6'2", 180, lifelong CD. Wife is supportive and accepting. "Dress every day except for work. We visit Provincetown and Manhatten often. Love all things feminine and am confident and happy with who I am, thanks to meeting others and becoming homest with myself. Will do our best to answer those who write."

EMILY C. (NY-NP-2966-64), P O Box 306, New Hartford NY 13413-0306

MWM, midforties, 5'6", supportive wife. Love cooking, crafts, shopping, corresponding with others, family, exchanging ideas. "Love the total look. Am beginning to venture out and meet others and enjoying every minute. Let's write. Your letter will get a quick response. No sex letters. Photos encouraged."

DENISE MILLER (NY-2974-65), P O Box 361, Amherst NY 14226-0361

Member Tri-Ess. 43, 6'1", degreed, life-long CD, single, discreet, good humored, own small business, straight. Interested in golf, volley ball, architecture. "Like to meet others. Need make up help/practice. Dress most evenings. Where can I buy Misses tall sizes (18-20)? Lane Bryant seems to be dropping talls."

DENISE MILLER (NY-3012-65)

Member Tri-Ess, attended Be All '92. MWM, 51, 5'6", 155, professional, private person,

discreet. Interested in reading, movies, computers, cooking, photography, would like to try dining out, getting together for friendship, etc. "In closet except when traveling, dressed for shopping, mall walking. Need time to respond."

DENISE O. (NY-P-3124-65)

5'7", 180 and dropping, 40's, divorced. Interested in friendships. I love to correspond and will answer all. Willing to meet others in NYC & LI area. Love classical music, Broadway shows, model railroading, shopping and dressing. Would love to hear from all sisters out there."

SHELLY TAYLOR (NY-P-3173-62)

MWM, 50's, 6', 165, 14. Interested in good jazz, good friends, fabulous feminine clothing. "Love to hear from TVs and anyone interested. Dressing since I was a kid. Comfortable with my feminine side. Wife is not understanding or tolerant, so time limited to daytime outings. Write, send pictures. I'll respond in kind."

JACKIE TEG (NY-3208-62), J. Teg, P O Box 9, Kenmore NY 14233

37, 5'10", 155. Interested in music, country and western, classical, sports, nice talks. "Looking for other TV/TSs and women in the western NY area to socialize and to learn from. Want to finally come out of the closet."

ANNE HARPER (NY-NP-3195-62), P O Box 82, Alton NY 14413-0082

43, divorced CD, 5'11", 170. Active member EON. Self-employed designer. Interested in writing, building my designs, and enjoying crossdressing. "Live alone now and enjoy the freedom after twenty years of repressions. Many friends know of my CG activities and are accepting. Would like to correspond with others with similar interests."

ANGELA MARTIN (NY-P-3252-62), Box 10794, Rochester NY 14610

Member CD Network. SWM, 45, healthy, creative. Lifelong CD. Write "Angela's Amblings" (CD News). Viet Nam era Veteran. Actively working ACOA twelve step recovery and growth program. Writing book of daily meditations for CDs. Interested in hearing from others who have discovered that their 'Lost Child' is feminine."

PATRICIA PENC (NY-3276-62), J. P. Penc, RD #3 Box 1117, Clinton NY 13323

27, 5'8", 160, BS Chemistry - looking for work. Interested in music, playing guitar, home recording, skiing, yoga, and health. "Would like to speak with others and hear their experiences with a relationship with a significant other. I am sincere and caring and seeking a nonsexual friendship in the gender community."

DIANA AUSTIN (NY-P-3283-62), Occupant, P O Box 13502, Rochester NY 14613

Member of CD Network. Attended Texas T Party '91, '92, Be All '90,'91. WMM, 34, 5'9", 150, brown eyes. Interested in music, boating, fine wine, shopping at malls, going to restaurants, and night clubs. "Enjoy friendships, sharing interests and experiences. Do public outreach. Will try to answer all."

LISA HAYES (NY-P-3292-63)

MWM, hetero, CD, 5'7", 155, wife supportive. "Out of closet for thirteen years. Would like to go out, but wife and I don't think I am passable."

GINNY P. (NY-3386-64), G. Petrie, P O Box 4103, Rome NY 13440

50, 5'10", 180. Interested in sports and golf. "Been dressing for years, but very privately. Now have more time available, so like to make new friends who share my special loves. Write and I will respond."

GWENDOLYNN S. (NY-3548-63)

SWM, TV, 26, 6', software engineer. Interesred in Sci-Fi/ Fantasy, comic books, RPGs, all music. "Gone out a few times, never in my area. Was told I was more attractive than some real girls last Hallowe'en. Don't pass because of voice, mannerisms, poor makeup. Looking for friends, relationship in SE NY, all CT. Want to make list of CD songs."

JEAN TAYLOR (NY-P-3375-63), P O Box 121, Goshen NY 10924

Married, hetero, CD, novice TV, wife knows but can't understand, 50's, look much younger (29 and holding), petite 5'6", 120. Interested in SCUBA, skiing, sunbathing, computers, shopping, lingerie, cosmetics, jewelry. "Seek sisters for correspondence, photo exchange. Would like to meet and help others. Will answer all."

PRISSY S. (NY-P-3420-63)

Attended Provincetown Outing '88. Divorced bi-TV with TS tendencies, 5'10", 160 and losing, mid 50's, work out regularly. Interested in classical music. "Love wearing bras, hosiery, high heels, and low cut dresses. Would enjoy going out dressed and dancing, especially with attractive men. Plan to go full-time."

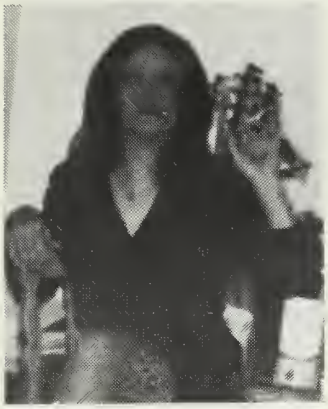
RACHEL H. (NY-3435-63)

32, 5'8", 130, hazel eyes. Interested in art music, writing, history, language, and cats. "Present financial and living status keep me closeted. Wish to communicate with others and share life and dreams. I will answer all."

STELLA ARNOLD (NY-3434-63), P O Box 232, East Norwich NY 11732

SWM, TV, 5'8", 160. Interested in bowling, dancing, music, and model railroading. "Looking to meet

other CDs for friendship and correspondance."



VICTORIA LYNN (NY-NP-3429-64), P O Box 1951, Syracuse NY 13201

Member of EON. Attended Autumn Accord, '90. 5'8", 145, WM TV. Married, but strong attraction to other TV/TSs. Wife very supportive. Interested in history, engineering, writing, science, learning more about my feminine side. "Dressing for fifteen years, but just out of the closet. Love to hear from all. Will answer all."

JOANN S. (NY-P-3455-63), P O Box 675, Medford NY 11763

Attended Fantasia Fair, Tri-Ess convention in Chicago. Retired, hetero, live alone, dress as often as I like, sometimes for weeks at a time. Interested in world travel (travel every chance I get), photography, fine dining. "Would like to hear from people who live near me on the eastern end of Long Island."

JANE ENGEL (NY-3685-64)

Member of LIFE, Tri-Ess. 34, M, 5'7", 140, lt. brown hair, blue eyes. Post graduate photographer/geographer. Interested in travel, photography, sports cars, computers, tennis, skiing, baseball, football, gardening, music, dance, theater, swimming, art, and earth sciences. "Go out dressed day and night. Am a fashion mave. Want to correspond with others who want to do the same."

PATTY II. (NY-NP-3593-64)

Member Rochester CD Network. DWM, strictly TV and proud of it! Mid 40's with long-term genetic girlfriend. Big and sometimes bold. "Have passed, and not had bad experiences when read. Usually such occasions are amusing. Have not been able to get out as much as we would like because of the kids. Would like to meet and/or correspond with similar couples in the Finger Lakes."

JODIE II. (NY-NP-3700-65)

Attended Pocono Weekend, Wildside. MWM, 40, 5'11", 153, 11. Interested in having fun. "Wife very supportive, want to meet other couples to enjoy this new, exciting feminine world together. Just starting to go out, but everything is going well. Upstate New York. Have a great day!"

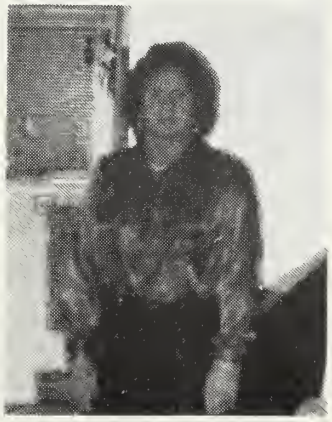
AMANDA F. (NY-NP-3757-65)

50, recently divorced, 5'10", 180. Interested in WW II history, model railroading, boating. "Lifelong interest in CD, only now starting to dress, but not often. Discreet. Wish to correspond with and exchange photo with passable CD/TV/TSs and women. Need help in developing my femme side. Will answer all. No men, please!"

PENNSYLVANIA (150-196-)

SHEILA KIRK (W PA-P-0336-99)

IFGE Board of Directors (Executive Committee), Coming Together Staff. Member Tiffany Club, TransPitt, Paradise. Participant Everything. Attractive TV, dedicated to this wonderful joy of dressing. "I work very hard, so moments of relaxation and pleasure of this sort are precious to me. I love being a TV, and I'm eager to meet many others who delight in the same feelings."



ROBIN FREY (E PA-P-0932-63), Box 2072, Southeastern PA 19399

Member Renaissance. 43-year-old pre-op on hormones. Interested in boating, hiking, and sun bathing. "Pre-op TS would like to meet Mr. Wonderful so I can be the housewife I long to be. Need help for surgery. Can relocate. Anybody interested in opening a TV/TS boutique in Philadelphia area?"

DAVIDA T. (E PA-0944-63)

SWM, 39, shy and discreet. "Just starting to come out, thanks to a few friends. Enjoy spending my free time being as feminine as possible. Seeking friends who would like to share that time with me."

BETH STEELE (PA-1031-63)

Member of Transpitt, Crossroads, TCNE. Attended Be All, Spring and Fall Provincetown Outings. Tall, thin, dressy, good talker. Interested in dressing up and going out to events, dinner, malls for shopping, and making friends.

REBECCA SUE M. (PA-NP-1357-64)

"Retired professional WM mid-sixties, a long time CD now coming out of the closet. Love being feminine. Looking for person who can provide a safe haven for several hours in daytime on a monthly basis in the suburban Philadelphia area so I can dress in privacy. Will generously compensate that discreet person."

MARYANN KIRKLAND (E PA-P-1531-62), P O Box 1242, Newtown PA 18940

Member Renaissance, Greater Philadelphia, Public Outreach Director. Attended IFGE '90, '91, Texas T Party, Pocono Weekend, Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning. Awards 1990 Renaissance Woman of the Year. MWM, hetero, TV, 5'11", early 40's. Wife is supportive. "All spouses are urged to write to us. Outreach activities include college class-room speaking, professional seminars, and television shows."

JENNIFER WHITE (W PA-P-1722-63)

Member TransPitt, Paradise. Participant: 'Be All'. 5'10", 170, brown hair, green eyes. Interested in sports, fashion, writing, photography. "Looking for males for escorts, CDs for shopping, going out, etc. Nothing bizarre, please."

JANET ROSE (PA-P-1879-64)

Attended Be All and Fantasia Fair. SWM, 49, 5'11", 143. Interested in business, race cars, domestic chores, CD. "I do turn into an exhibitionist in front of a camera. Would love to meet mature, understanding women for fun and friendship. Girlfriend also interested in meeting CDs' wives."

CRAIG SAMSON (E PA-P-1977-65)

SWM, 6', 185, 35, athletically built and masculine in disposition. "Seeking very feminine TV's or TS's between the ages of 21 to 30 to meet & develop possible long term relationships with. Work in construction & will travel for that special person. Please send photo & phone. Will answer all those who meet my requirements."

ROBIN F. (W PA-NP-2020-65)

SWM, early forties, 6', 175. Professional with graduate degree. Interested in psychology of CD fantasies. "Recently had first make over. Enjoy dancing in full skirts and petticoats. Like showing off my legs in minis and heels. Appreciate assistance from other CDs and women who would help."

SHARON M. (E PA-P-2326-62)

Member Renaissance. SWM, 32, 5'10", 145. Lives in Phila. area. Attractive, non-smoker, serious writer. Interested in correspondence and dating females and "T" people. "Cross-dressing has come between my last two girlfriends and me. Time to start finding friends who understand."

WENDY MILLER (PA-2412-62)

Member Transpitt. Attended Be All '90 & '91. 5'10", 165, TG. Working very hard towards living full time. Interested arts, SCUBA.

MICHELLE DOUGLAS (SE PA-2623-63), P O Box 156, Paoli PA 19301

MWM, 40, 5'10", 185. Enjoy fine lingerie, satin dresses, and high heels. Married to accepting and helpful wife. "I'm a novice, and have never been out. Would like to correspond with other married couples concerning CD relationships."

WILLOW AYLA SHENEN (PA-2052-65), P O Box 534, Huntigdon Valley PA 19006

38, 5'8", 170, blue eyes, brown hair, DWM, hetero TV. Interested in Native American spirituality and culture, environmental concerns, reading, conversation, and being in nature. "Lifetime CD/TV. Accepted myself 15 years ago. Supportive girlfriend helps. Express feminine nature in all aspects of life."

OLIVE K. (PA-2723-63)

Member Tri-Ess, SGA. 5'10", 138, 75, white, brown eyes, almost white hair. Interested in CD, maintaining household, cooking, and electronics.

PHYLLIS W. (W PA-2770-63) P.W., P O Box 18413, Pittsburgh PA 15236

Member Transpitt. 5'11", late 30's, CD with TS tendencies. "I find that living two lives occupies most of my time. I therefore cannot guaranty I'll respond to every letter."

REBECCA L. (PA-2808-63)

M-F pre-op transsexual in mid 30's. Nondrinker, nonsmoker, slim, 5'10", brown eyed brunette. Interested in reading, classical music, and quiet walks through parks and gardens. "Would like to correspond with sensitive, articulate, M-F transsexual to establish warm friendship and mutual support."

EMILY F. (PA-P-3380-63)

E. Fador, P O Box 95205, Pittsburgh PA 15226

Member of Transpitt. 40, 150, green eyes, blonde hair. Interested in makeup, hair-styling, golf. "Would like to meet other TV/TSs and women. Friendly and understanding. Was subjected to petticoat punishment. Would like to hear others' experiences."

KATHERINE KC CARTER (PA-NP-3701-64)

MWM, TV, 36, 6'4", hazel eyes, long black hair. Interested in all things feminine, cross-stitch, reading, the seashore, music, collecting sport and non-sport cards, post-cards, etc. "CD since age five, but still in the closet. Have loving and supportive wife. Love writing and want to correspond with other sisters. Will answer all."

ROCCANA DEFAZIO (PA-NP-3383-62), P O Box 51195, Phila. PA 19115

35, 5'7", slender build. "Simply love dressing en femme. Especially love a short skirt with gorgeous, silky hose and sexy heels. Want to experience what it's truly like to be a woman. Would like to correspond and exchange photos with TV sisters or whoever may be curious. Thank you very much."

LISA KISH (PA-NP-3649-64)

31, 6', 165, Soft and caring, a listener and traveler, a feminine soul.

Interested in photography, baseball, interior design, and feminine fashion. "Am excited about releasing my true soul which I've suppressed since childhood. I have matured much since I wrote to some of you. Would love to explore the feminine side of life with those who have similar interests and attitudes. Please write."

S. KRISTINE JAMES
(PA-3228-62) S. K. James, P O Box 61, Easton PA 18044-0061

Member TCNE, Renaissance, CDI. Attended P'town Outing '90, Poconos '91. 5'10", 175, professional. Interested in dinners, social activities. Love to dress and go out. "Travel entire US. Would like to hear from others, especially those who travel to New York City."

KIMBERLY ANN W.
(PA-NP-3641-64)

Member Renaissance, attend DCEA. S, hetero, non-smoker, 5'10", 160, brown hair, blue eyes, 40ish. Interested in hiking, traveling, rocky mountains, military history, amateur radio, astronomy, classical music, rock, and dance. "Kim has really developed her feminine image & personality. Most of all, I would love to share Kim with a real and understanding lady."

DELAWARE (197- 199-)

AUDREY J. STEELE
(DE-2434-66)

Member Tri-Ess. Participant 'Holiday En Femme'. WWM TV, 5'10", 195, 54, blue eyes, brown hair. "Almost out of closet. Mother knows and accepts me as Audrey. 3 adult children don't yet. Love all facets of cross-dressing. Like photography, meeting other CDs, writing to CDs, making new friends. Will answer. Please write."

PHYLLIS VANETTA LARSON
(DE-0931-66)

Member Tiffany Club of New England, Tri-Ess. Attended TCNE Awards Banquet, 1991. 60, 6', 180. Gracious Lady married 40 years to understanding wife. Self employed, often dresses in home & office. Electrolysis completed, sails competetively, active in Protestant church. FAA rated pilot, resides in S. DE. Letters answered.

EMILY SHELDON
(N DE-P-0629-64) E. Sheldon, P O Box 4457, Greenville DE 19807

Member Renaissance. Attended Fantasia Fair '86 - '89, Most Helpful '89. Mature TV, fiftyish, pass easily in public. Enjoy fashion, friends, fun, helping others get out of the closet. Attend 2-3 TV meetings/ month, 2-3 major TV events/year. "Looking for correspondence."

LESLIE FAIRMONT
(N DE-P-2425-66) Occupant, P O Box 5093, Wilmington DE 19808

Member Renaissance. DWM, TV/TS, 12/6/40, 5'6", 135, blue eyes. "Pass in public. Attend 2 or 3 meetings per month. Seeking other sisters. Interested in all aspects of femininity. Not macho, but willing to 'push the envelop.' Intelligent, warm, caring, imaginative person with a sense of humor."

WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (200- 205-)

MARYLAND (206- 218-)

HELEN G. (MD-2227-62)

Member of Delta Chi and Washington Baltimore Alliance. Attended Fantasia Fair the last three years, Texas T Party, Program Director Delta Chi. Big TV, 5'9", size 26, 48 bra. Interested in classical music, photography, and attending TV meetings and events. "Love attending and working for the Fair and local groups. Love to meet TV sisters. Would love to meet a genetic female who understands CDs."

KATE GOLDMAN (MD-P-1652-62)

Member ETVC. 5'8", 155, 44, TV, supportive wife. Interested in photography, reading, computers, and music. "I've practiced in the closet long enough. Overcoming my anxieties, ready to participate, and determined to meet others. Promise to write back to all who correspond. Please send photo."

PAULA I. (MD-P-1860-64)
P. J. I., P O Box 24642, Baltimore MD 21214

TV, 35, 5'7", 135, married. Interested in music, songwriting, sailing, films, reading, and exploring spirituality. "Have several close and dear TV and TS friends and would enjoy developing more. Would like to explore honestly and openly what makes us alike and different. Especially interested in contacting people in the area, but will answer mail from anywhere."

DIANE FERN (MD-2229-65)

Member of Couples. "A mature TV with transgender inclinations and a very supportive wife. Enjoy progressive jazz, walks on the beach, fireside talks, and small social get-togethers. Dress virtually every day. Look forward to meeting people interested in open discussion of the TV/TG lifestyle and sharing gender euphoria - let's talk!"

NANCY ANN B. (MD-NP-2046-65)

Member Delti Chi (DCEA), WBA. Participant Fantasia Fair '90, '91, Poconos '92. 5'9", 160. Interested in crossdressing, competitive duckpin bowling, softball, table tennis, and volunteer work. "Crossdressing has always been a part of my life. Now that Tapestry, Tri-Ess, and others have opened up the community for all, it has helped me to be me."

JULIA CYBELE (C MD-P-2739-64)

Member My Choice, Daughters of Isis, Mensa, WBA, DCEA. Participant Texas 'T' Party. 1952 Libra, 5'10", 170, dark blonde tresses; sensitive, feminine INFP; living full time since 7/91. Interested in beauty in all forms; veneration of the goddess; sunsets; mystery and transcendence; reading; friendship; humor. "Adore classical music, cultures of Antiquity, exotic cuisine, and good conversation."

ANN MILLER (C MD-2776-64)

Member Tri-Ess. MWM, 39, 6', 180, lifelong TV. "Ready to start out of the closet. Interested in corresponding with other TVs and

TSs. Educated, responsible person desiring to meet same. Please respond with photo."

FRAN CAMPBELL (MD-P-2855-64), P O Box 469, Bowie MD 20718-0469

Member of Boulton & Park Society, Heart of Texas Gender Alliance. 6'2", 215, blue eyes, brown hair. Interested in music, MIDI, computers. "Just relocated to the DC area. Will join one or two local support groups when settled. Would like your comment on the available groups. Please write."

JULIANNE CHRISTINE THOMAS (MD-3203-63), P O Box 59392, Potomac MD 20859

5'10", 170, brown hair, hazel eyes. Interested in skiing, cooking, shopping, roller coasters, travel, and camping. "I have just begun to allow my feminine self to emerge. I could use all the help and guidance to become more feminine. Will respond to all who write."

LYNN B. (MD-NP-2931-65)

Member Tri-Ess. Participant Poconos Weekend. 6', 175, 60, hetero TV, married, supportive wife. Interested in good music, photograpghy, fishing, string art. "Been CD since age 13. Mother found out when I was 11. Interested in meeting others, couples, for friendship and support. All CDs in MD, DE, VI, come on out, to have our own chapter!"

ELEANOR O. (C MD-P-2747-63)

WM TV, 41, 5'10", 170, blue eyes, brown hair. "Have been dressing for 25+ years, but only accepted this part of my nature 10 years ago. Dress often. I like the professional, feminine, conservative style, which fits my nature as a management woman. Hope to meet and/or correspond with other TV-CDs and TSs. Will respond to all who write."

BARBARA A. (MD-P-2795-64), P O Box 3255, Laural MD 20709

Member D.C.E.A. TV, 5'10", 140 lbs., blond hair, blue eyes. Travel frequently to CA, CO, FL, and AL. "Interested in corresponding with others and making new friends."

ELLEN MARIE ANDERSON (MD-P-3142-62), P O Box 1551, White Plains MD 20695

42, 5'9", 175, blue eyes, chestnut hair, married to a lovely lady. "I've only been out at night, but look forward to perfecting a passable daytime persona. Would like to hear from any who care to write, especially from wives who have successfully dealt with their husband's crossdressing."

ANGELA F. (MD-P-3453-63)

Eclectic TG, 27, 5'6", single, musician, artist, medical professional. Like the outdoors, bicycling, the beach, long talks, classical to progressive music, cooking, flying, home-brewing, building things, creating, being. "Am new to the community and trying to find my place in the gender spectrum. Desire contact with interesting souls for mutual life enhancement."

GWEN D. (MD-NP-3547-63)

6', 155, 37, MWM, educated, professional artist. "Am new to our community and very much want to learn and experience more of this wonderful and exciting lifestyle. Adore everything feminine and flirtatious, from short skirts and high heels to bridal gowns and baby dolls. Would love to correspond and possibly meet other TV/TSs. Discreet letters with photo will be answered with the same."

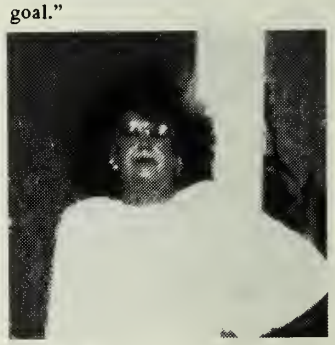
MICHELLE HANSON (MD-3598-64)

38, 5'10", very overweight. Unsupportive spouse. Shy, but excited about coming out. TS tendencies since childhood. Interested in chess, hypnosis, Tom Clancy novels, Chinese food, feminist issues. "Would like to correspond with others in the DC, MD, VA area who are dealing with TG issues. Recently started therapy (Again!) and am intent on letting my feminine side live, even thrive."

VIRGINIA (220- 246-)

JAYNE MACK (VA-P-1206-64)

DWM, early 50's, 5'8", 160, blue eyes, grey hair. Interested in writing, dressing up, jazz. "Looking for help in becoming as feminine as possible. Want to meet sisters and those who appreciate our sisterhood to work with me as I strive for my goal."



CHRISTINA SMITH (VA-P-1868-63), P O Box 34631, Richmond VA 23234

Member Tri-Ess, Virginia's Secret. MWM, 40's, 6', 185. Enjoy photography, big band music, collectable records, cooking, and going out dressed. "Like to write other sisters. Forming new Tri-Ess group in Richmond. Like to attend Holiday En Femme or similar event."

SUSAN REYNOLDS (VA-0017-63), Box 11160, Alexandria VA 22312

Member Tri-Ess. Participant P-town and Poconos gatherings. Reasonably passable. Love sleek clothing. Adore being VERY buxom when at home. "I write to a number of sisters, and especially enjoy writing to those sisters who like being buxom. Am very happy and content with myself as a woman."

DEBBIE LYNNE OGLE (C VA-2095-64)

6'1", brunette, green eyes, fair complexion, very passable. Interested in computers, sci-fi

SHEILA W. (VA-P-2276-65), P O box 64593, Virginia Beach VA 23467

Member Virginia's Secret. 6', 185. Interested in photography, woodworking, corresponding, meeting others, exchanging photos. "I enjoy all aspects of being a CD and am delighted to meet others. My time is limited, but I try to be a good correspondent."

TREVA MARIE WILSON (VA-P-3296-63), P O Box 23773, Alexandria VA 22304

TV with TS aspirations, 27, 5'11", 170, blonde, green eyes. Interested in all things feminine, shoes, wigs, high fashion clothes, and especially perfecting my feminine persona. "Open minded, caring individual, love to look and feel sexy. Seek to know and meet TV/TSs and women for mutual support and admiration. Photos please."

DONNA E. (VA-2502-62)

DWM, hetero, TV, 5'11", 170, 45, 14-16. Interested in snow skiing, cooking, hunting, fishing, and dressing up. "Closet TV most of my life. Now seeking to meet other TV's and genetic women for friendship, and to help me to refine my make-up and hair skills. Write and send photo. I'll reciprocate as soon as possible."

SAMANTHA W. (VA-P-3052-65)

Member Virginia's Secret. MWM, hetero TV, 70's, retired, 5'9", 165, 14/16. Interested in amateur radio, sailing, wood carving, bridge, classical music, ballet, dressing, shopping. "Suppressed TV from boyhood. Delighted to discover Virginia's Secret and IFGE. First chance ever to tip-toe out of the closet. Wife of fifty years not supportive. Welcome letters from other TV's."

TINA C. (VA-NP-3310-63)

CD, 40, 5'10", 185. Interested in dressing up to go out to do almost anything, shopping, going for a walk ... "Am 75% passable. Still working on it and learning. Love mini-skirts and high heels. Would like to meet people with similar interests, as well as non-CDs who can appreciate me."

LAINE R. (VA-NP-3559-63), Box 1133, Springfield VA 22151

"What I may lack in passing, I make up for with my love of dressing. Into sexy short skirts, lingerie, and heels. Enjoy the erotic, as well as exploring my feminine side with CDs, women, and couples. Bi. Hope to venture out in public soon. Enjoy mountain/beach getaways. Unsupportive wife. Late 30's, 5'11", 170, professional, creative. Seek similar for times together or photo swap/correspondence."

PATRICA D. (VA-3448-63)

Member of Delta Chi. 5'7", blue eyes, brown hair, 48. Interested in jazz, camping, traveling the world, reading, and hiking. "Have just overcome lifelong sense of guilt. Since I wanted to wear feminine things, my mother wanted another girl. My sister and mother encouraged me to become their daughter/sister. Just started crossdressing again and am very happy with Patrica. Need help."

WEST VIRGINIA (246- 268-)

PRISCILLA WENTWORTH (WV-0640-64)

P.M. Wentworth, Box 687, Berkeley Springs WV 25411

Member Crossroads. MWM TV, 5'10", 170. Retired from Foreign Service. Widely travelled, broad interests. Likes to correspond with other TV's/TS's.

KAYE LIGHTNER (WV-P-2435-66)

Member TWV. Attended Be All '90, '91, Paradise in the Poconos '91. Married CD with understanding spouse. "My coming out has been a real growth experience - for both of us. Interested in sewing, cartooning, gardening, cats. Degree in Psychology in progress. Avid correspondent. Free to travel to OH, KN, and VA. Would like to try daylight outings in straight settings. Will answer all promptly."

DEE II. (WV-2329-65)

D. D. Hensell, P O Box 422, Ridgeley WV 26753

Member Tri-Ess. 46, hetero, CD since age 3, divorced after 20 years, 5'10", gray-brown hair, 160, Christian. Interested in all things feminine, a better look, fishing, canoeing, biking, sewing. "Would like to relocate and meet a woman who could accept me for me. Need some help in makeup. Will write as time permits. Any employment opportunities would be greatly appreciated."

TABETHA ANN TAMBOR (WV-NP-2453-63), c/o Trans-WV, P O Box 2322, Huntington WV 25724-2322

Member of Trans-WV, Tri-Ess. Single, hetero, CD, early 20's, 6', 174, 13/14. Interested in art, clowning, face painting, makeup, artists (Kostabi, Kari Barbi, Joanne Gair), tropical fish, and taking photos. "I'm interested in finding someone to go out in public with me. I've partially broken this barrier, but want to go all the way to the mall ... maybe even eat out, shop, and see a movie. Will answer all eventually."

RENEE LYNN II. (S WV-NP-2604-63), P O Box 9372, Huntington WV 25704-9372

Member Crossport, Trans WV. MWM, 47. "Married to a very supportive and understanding wife. Interested in corresponding with other sisters, shopping, dressing, and just being feminine. Been CD since early childhood. Haven't been out dressed except for Trans WV meeting. Some day I would like to be able to go out in public dressed. Will write to all."

DEBBIE LUCAS (WV-3393-63)

Member of Trans-WV. One of the founders of Trans-WV. Attended Be All a few years back. 38, 5'7", brown eyes, brown hair, great sense of humor. "I've been a TV all my life. Have an understanding wife who helps me. Love passing in public in both casual and fancy clothes. Love being a lady!"

NORTH CAROLINA (270- 289-)

SUZANNE E. BISHOP (NC-P-2414-62)

Member Tri-Ess. Tall, slender, blue-eyed blonde, enjoys yoga, jogging, reading, music, conversation, and the arts. "Although relatively closeted for family and business reasons, I do go out from time to time with no problems. Would like to meet other CDs in my area for friendship and fun."

TABITHA VALKYRIE (NC-P-2616-63), P O Box 14328, Raleigh NC 27620-4328

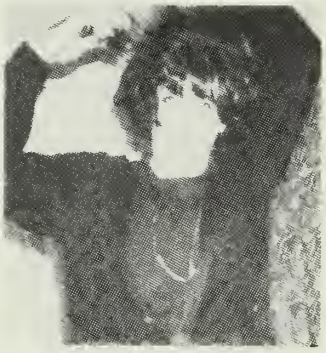
5'6", 140. "I celebrated my new birthday July 23, 1991. I'm female, Yeah! Would like to hear from people with a sense of humor who enjoy being alive, KNOW WHO THEY ARE or are at least trying to find out. All MEN are especially encouraged to reply."

CATHERINE B. (NC-2480-62)

Member Kappa Beta. MWM, 45, 5'9", 142. Interested in water sports, dressing. "I have just recently come out after twenty years of dressing. Am still learning and developing my femme self. I'd love to hear from other CD sisters. I will respond as my work and family obligations allow."

STEPHANIE DULA (NC-P-2519-62), P O Box 78082, Greensboro NC 27427-8082

Member Triad Gender Association. 5'9", 20, SWM, TV, brown hair and eyes. Interested in art, driving in the mountains, and walking her dog. "Blessed with the acceptance of a wonderful girlfriend. We have a very giving relationship. We would like to get together with other couples in the Central NC area. Drop us a line."



DEBBIE N. (NC-NP-3497-63)

Intersexual, 5'10", 170, 37, sober, vegetarian. Interested in art, philosophy, femininity. "Desire to make warm and intelligent friendships in the gender community. Photo & letter would be nice."

JANICE LONG (NC-P-3146-62)

SWM, 35, lifelong TV, 6'2". Interested in cooking, shopping, reading, photography, and traveling. "I enjoy dressing, but haven't had the opportunity to do so lately. Due to work and home life, I just dress sporadically. Would enjoy correspondence and possibly meeting others, particularly tall sisters, and those who have told their SOs."

JENNIFER GOODNIGHT (NC-NP-3640-64), P O Box 2045, Statesville NC 28687

Attended Southern Comfort '91, Dressing for Pleasure '91. Buxomly built gal, 38, 5'9", 43-32-42. Looking for understanding friends that want to meet and go out on the town. Interested in music, travel, intimate times. "Can travel. Enjoy all aspects of helping others in our transgendered world."

SOUTH CAROLINA (290- 299-)

KATIE MARIE JOHNSON (SC-P-3326-62)

MWM, hetero, 5'11", 162, 43. Interested in talk radio, CD, walking, shopping, collecting miniature cars. "Been CD since childhood. Love dressing up. Wife extremely supportive, we love going shopping together. Want to correspond with others, couples who are dealing with the sexual and emotional implications of CD. Like to find or start a club in SC. Please write."

BOBBI RENEE LONG (SC-NP-2149-65)

Member Kappa Beta. MWM, 57, 5'8". "I spend most of my CD time in public. I love dancing, shopping, eating out, and any activity that I can do as a woman. I like conservative clothes and makeup. I've had speech therapy and hormones have eliminated the need for pads to have a feminine body. I'll write all."

Bobbi Renee Long (SC-2149)

SHERRY LYNN CAPPS (SC-P-3338-63), P O Box 3406, Rock Hill SC 29732-5406

Member Kappa Beta Tri-Ess. 21, 6', 195, long honey blonde hair, blue eyes, passable. Interested in libertarian/conservative politics, history, shooting, shopping, reading/writing. "Eclectic, independent college student seeking to share the joys of womanhood. Want to hear from all. Can host traveling sisters. Looks, location unimportant. All letters answered promptly."

GAYNA A. (SC-NP-3639-64)

5'8", 150, 11/12, brown eyes, bi-TV, mid-40's. Interested in history, computers, cooking, fashion, twelve-step recovery. "Deep in closet (wife doesn't know). Looking for friends in Charlston-Low Country area to dress and have fun with. Will answer all. CD since

CHRIS K. (SC-3204-62)

SWM, 38, 6', brown hair, blue eyes, closeted CD. Interested in music, travel, and people. "I'm looking to meet new friends, TVs, TSs, and supportive women. Welcome letters. Can travel in NC, SC, FL, and GA."

GEORGIA (300- 319-)

DIANNE KENDALL (GA-NP-P-1298-65)

Member Sigma Epsilon. Participant Fantasia Fair, Be All, T-Party, Southern Comfort. Columnist for British publication REPARTEE. "Real clothes horse with extensive wardrobe. Eat in fine restaurants several times a week. Want to hear from those who were dressed by female relatives or friends when young. Could use your material in one of my 'Pampered in Panties' columns. Your anonymity would be protected."

JOANNA MONIT (NW GA-P-2722-64), P O Box 490983, Atlanta GA 30349

39, 6', 147, blond hair, blue eyes, TV, married. Busy professional just now making the time to pursue my feminine side. Life-long TV. Almost passable. Interests include the outdoors, photography stills or video, music, travel, and people. "Want to meet new friends, GGs, TVs, TSs for correspondence, photo exchange, and personal/social relationships. Travel."

TINA JORDAN (GA-2379-62)

Thirty-something, blue eyes, brown hair, 12/13, great legs! "Married, wife is adjusting. Pass in public with a little trouble. Interested in computers, tantra, video films, meditation, the feminine self as a state of consciousness, and the inner goddess."

FRANCES D. (GA-P-2952-65)

6', 200, 45, BiWM. "My wife is supportive, but does not participate. I have been in the closet since I started dressing as a pre-teen. Long to meet others in a similar situation. Into fulfilling fantasies and making special friends. I enjoy everything feminine."

LORI DEE HARMON (GA-NP-3105-65) L. Harmon, P O Box 674631, Marietta GA 30067

MWM, 39, 5'11", 190, 16. Enjoy hunting fishing, golf as time permits. Avid baseball and football fan. This is secondary to my love of being and feeling feminine. "Wife knows, not supportive. Love wearing lingerie, stockings, heels, and career dresses, skirts, blouses. Need help with makeup and wig. Ready to interact with my sisters and develop a passing image."

JENNIFER A. LAVERY (GA-P-3215-62), P O Box 870316, Stone Mountain GA 30087

Member Sigma Epsilon. Attended Southern Comfort, '91. MWM, 42, 5'8", 150. Hetero, passable, educated, professional CD. "Enjoy historical novels, minor league baseball, my children, home decorating, golf, and shopping. A caring, sincere person, and a true friend, willing to give as well as receive. Avid conversationalist and a faithful correspondent. Wife knows, but is totally intolerant."

RACHEL W. (GA-P-3251-63)

MWM, CD, 45, 5'10". Enjoy shopping and dining, going out to movies, always dressed. "Have great, accepting family. Would like to meet and correspond with other sisters."

ANNIE LYNN (GA-P-3298-62), Box 4423, Atlanta GA 30302

Tall, 33, blonde, blue eyes. Interested in movies, sports, history, the outdoors. "Looking for new friends to help me relax and be myself. Travel some. Would like to write and meet some other ladies to have fun and learn more about being a woman."

STEPHANIE F. (GA-3397-63)

TS in early 20's, very discreet, great sense of humor. Interested in screen writing, literature, watching movies, music (my ultimate passion), and fashion. "I would like to correspond with both pre-op and post-op TSs about all aspects of transition and our community."

KEVIN (GA-3446-64), P O Box 1925, Atlanta GA 30301-1925

"Have you looked through these ads too, and not found anyone you really wanted to write to? Does it seem like some areas of expression are missing? Playful, non-linear (non-dressing?) crossdresser would like to hear from you, then."

FLORIDA (320- 340-)

JENNIFER REECE (FL-P-0739-63)

SWM, hetero, 38. Interested in all water sports and boating. "Looking for a woman or a pre-op transsexual to communicate with. I'm a good person and lots of fun."

PETRA D. (FL-P-1314-65), P O Box 3426, Tallahassee FL 32315-3426

Member Sigma Epsilon. Attended Southern Comfort '91. Mid-30's, married to supportive wife with two children. "Edit the Dixie Belle, active on Tri-Ess BBS, occasionally on Genderline. Travel to Atlanta for Sigma Epsilon meetings, but would like to meet others in FL & S. GA. Interests include photography, computers, soccer, and exploring the concept of androgyny."

CATHI Y. (FL-1393-65)

MWM, hetero, TV, 41, 6'1", 170. "Love the feminine look, from gowns to short skirts. Enjoy meeting and corresponding with others.

PHYLLIS C. (FL-1473-62)

45, WM, 5'4", married. "Looking for new friends in the Tampa Bay area. Have been cross-dressing for years, mostly in private. I have an understanding wife. Enjoy high heels and that feminine feeling."

VANESSA B. (C FL-P-1396-65) E.B., P O Box 1076, Venice FL 34284-1076

Member Central FL Sisters, Southern Belles. 45, 5'5", 150. Interested in meeting with other sisters, and going to various outings/ clubs with my sisters. "I have accepted my feminine self. Can't get enough of Vanessa. Would like to be more passable so as to go to straight places."

SAMIE DIANNE B. (SW FL-P-1793-63)

Widower, 63, 5'8", 160. "I cross-dress whenever possible, & wear lingerie all the time. I have been a closet cross-dresser for 30 years with 2 wives and several women friends. I wore the dresses and they wore the slacks. Now I want out of the closet."

CYNTHIA SILVA (FL-P-1848-64), Box 18884, Tampa FL 33679-8884

Member Tri-Ess. SWM, hetero CD, 60's, 5'9", 200. Interested in working with my computer and amateur radio, VHF mobile, dressing whenever possible. "Would like to meet or correspond with other hetero CDs, TVs, and understanding GGs for femme talk, improving my femme personality and appearance, and having photo sessions."

CLAUDIA K. (FL-1833-63)

Member Crossport, IXE, CFS, Sigma Epsilon. Attended Be All, Texas T Party, Southern Comfort. Interested in sunshine, my home, travel, still & video photography. "Enjoy meeting new people. Am anxious to help CDs of any age out of the closet and into a support group."

PENNY THOMAS (FL-1671-62)

Member Tri-Ess, Phi Epsilon Mu. Attended Southern Comfort. 40, 6', brunette, and heavier than I wish. Interested in computers, science fiction & mysteries, roller blading, and trying to discover who I am. "Erratic writer, but will try to answer letters."

CHARLENE FIRESTINE (FL-P-1934-64)

Member of Central Florida Sisters. DWM, 5'7". Interested in anything female. "Love to get together with all my sisters and share ideas, dreams. TS inclinations. Like 60's music, enjoy renting movies and listening to my radio. Love to go out to clubs for a good time. Wish to hear from sisters around the country."

JEANNIE B. (FL-P-2665-64)

Bi, mid 40's, 145, fair hair, blue eyes, no body hair, 5'7", 12/14. Interested in sun, sand, ocean, videos, cooking. "Florida: mid-Atlantic coast, seems like none of you girls are in my area. Would like to meet TV/TSs for get togethers, photo exchange. Dressing since age ten. Need help from other sisters. Goal to live the rest of my life as a woman. Please write."

JACQUELYN NOWLING (FL-2063-65)

Member Sigma Epsilon. Mid-50's, 6', 180. Interested in wine-making, reading, & being 'Jacque.' "I travel FL extensively and would like to write & meet all sisters possible. Wife is very supportive and active in wives support group in Sigma Epsilon."

ANNA BLAKE (FL-2418-63)

MWM. 39, TG/TS, wife knows and accepts. Interested in walking; hiking; camping in woods, mountains, and seashore; folk dancing; reading; music; science. "Am blossoning after a lifetime of privacy through sisters in support group and on BBS AOL. Like to contact other TG/TSs to share experiences, tips, and support."

JEAN RICH (FL-NP-2824-63), P O Box 970645, Miami FL 33187

Member of Serenity. Miss Congeniality, Fla. Gold Coast '89. On panel at Barrey University. Divorced, hetero, 49, 5'9", 155. Interested in disco dancing, biking, outdoor photography, shopping, stock market, travel, movies, meeting TV/TSs. "Advenced CD, outgoing, love GG. Non-smoker, enjoy physical fitness. Very social. Sometimes I do shows for charity events. Passable. Will answer those who send pictures."

JOANNE SHANNON (FL-2690-64), P O Box 89, Middleburg FL 32050-0089

Member Tri-Ess. MWM, 6'3", 215, 44. Interested in getting back to basics, homesteading, photography, natural history, electronics, computers, American history. "In the closet but slowly emerging. Wife tolerant but not supportive. Hetero but bi-curious. Desire to correspond with and meet sisters in NE FL. Need support and understanding. Please write. Will answer all."

JOAN M. (FL-2821-64)

TV, 66, 5'4", single. Interested in drawing, painting, all the arts. "I am a life-long crossdresser. I like to correspond and meet other TVs or TSs in southwest FL for friendship and support."

Joan M. (FL-2821)

JODY N. (FL-P-2968-64)

Member Central Florida Sisters. SWM, CD, 5'6", 130, thirty-something. TS inclinations. Interested in total feminization, reading, golf, and physical fitness. "Seeking correspondence and possible get togethers with understanding, attractive females, couples, TSs, and CDs in PSL area. Photo please if possible."

CATHY R. (FL-P-3007-65) C. R., Box 604, Apopka FL 32704

SWM, Bi, 6', 170, a feminine closet TV. "I am an XXY feminine male. Love to correspond and share interests."

BOBBI REED (FL-3171-62)

5'7", 130, slender build. Very real breasts. Interested in writing, video, meeting new friends, travel, and sharing new ideas. "I would like to become a member of some group, but time and job prevent that at present. Would be glad to hear from anyone that has time to write. Am always open to new information and ideas."

MICHELLE H. (FL-3189-62)

36, DWM, TV, 6', 160. Interested in computers, baseball,

reading, female fashions, shopping. "Recently divorced and now able to dress as I please. Would like to meet others in the Tampa Bay area interested in the same."

SUSAN S. (FL-P-3130-62), 1971 W. Lumsden, Suite 121, Brandon FL 33511

MWM, 5'10", 158, CD, totally hetero, above average at all sports. Interested in collecting slips, half slips, and old crinolines. "Lifelong sense of guilt since I realized I liked to wear feminine things. As an only child, my mother wanted a girl. She encouraged me to be her 'daughter.' Looking for those who had a similar experience. Will answer all."

JANESSA DELITE (FL-P-3141-62), P O Box 970645, Miami FL 33197

Member Serenity, Hollywood, FL. 5'9", blue/green eyes, 150, TV/TS. Interested in shopping for clothes, going out to hot night spots. Meeting new friends. "Lifelong crossdresser and active member of the TV/TS community. Would like to be more involved in helping others, and in participating in national events."

RANDI P. (FL-3650-64)

Member Serenity (Miami). MWM, lifelong TV, 53, 5'10", professional, quiet and shy. Interested in nurturing the femininity I have always suppressed, and being who I really am. "Would like to meet compatible friends in Southern Florida for social occasions and/or going out."

KATHY GAIL DRIAPER (FL-P-3192-63)

Member AEGIS, Sigma Epsilon, Tallahassee, FL. Founder: Gender Information Network of Gainesville (GING). Small business owner, ex-communicated minister, 6'3", 175, androgynous pre-op TS on hormones, over fifty hours electrolysis. "Need voice therapy. Help! Love nylon lingerie, latex panties, Spandex outfits, nylon scarves. Friends say I am strange, and I am."

HEATHER PHILLIPS (FL-P-3278-62), P O Box 2991, Brandon FL 33509-2991

5'10", 170. Enjoy lovely feminine things, friendship, and all kinds of music. Read Vogue, Glamour, and Cosmo. Like to shop and garden. Interested in personal growth. Phone number and photo would be appreciated.

DENISE P. (FL-P-3334-63)

MWM, hetero, 5'8", 165/8. Hetero. "Very supportive spouse. Close to passable. Have made guarded public ventures. My wife and I have long accepted my dual personalities. Interested in classic rock and roll, computers, motor sports, and being Denise. "Would enjoy corresponding with other sincere and discreet couples. Will answer all. Listed in Prodigy, or contact through Tapestry."

DONNA LYNN (FL-P-3343-62)

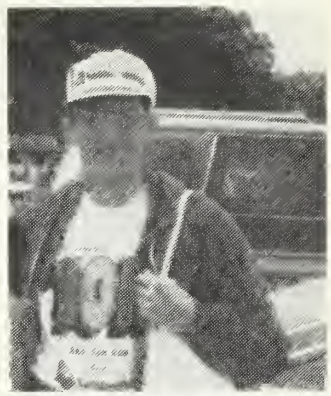
DWM, 5'9", 160, light hair, blue eyes, college educated. Interested in outdoor activities, biking, cooking, shopping, and dressing. "Beginning to accept feminine side with help of very special SO. Like to meet and correspond with other sisters and SOs for friendship, sharing, and support. Honest and sincere. Looking forward to hearing from you. Please include photo."

CHRISTY W. (FL-P-3348-62)

MWM, TV, 6'2", late 30's, blue eyes and brown hair. Enjoy photography, running, my family, life, and, of course, dressing up. "Lifelong TV, basically tired of being all dressed up with no place to go. Would love to correspond with and possibly meet others with similar interests. Also looking to attend some outings."

JANICE H. (FL-3588-63)

Member Tri-Ess. 5'8", blue eyes, blonde, 160, 13/14-15/16. Interested in CD, shopping, boating, skiing, sailing, water skiing, golf, tennis, cars, sun bathing. "Have been crossdressing since age 3 and love it. Also love to read about it."



RAY HUNT (FL-P-3499-64)

5'6", 150, fit, muscular, a little overweight. F-M CD, would-be TS. Interested in ultra marathon running, cycling, reading, TV - talk shows, drawing, hiking, bird watching, gems/crystals, religion/philosophy. "Dress full time. Am androgynous in manners, actions. Would be on hormones and get surgery, but can't afford it. Seek friendship and life companion. Love to talk and swap stories."

KATHY H. (FL-NP-3465-63)

MWM, bi-TV, non-supportive wife. "Seeking an understanding woman, feminine TV, or sexy TS for fun and friendship. Tender, loving person who adores feminine things. Enjoy reading, sailing, and computers. Inexperienced, but eager to learn. Travel extensively. Please send photo."

MICHELLE M. (FL-P-3328-63)

Member Central Florida Sisters. 35, 6'3", 195, married, hetero CD. Wife knows. Interested in golf,

sports, model railroading. "Would like to meet with other sisters, 'ladies' and couples in Ft. Myers area."

TRISHA ANN K. (FL-3754-65)

Experienced live-in care giver, SWM, TV in central FL, slim, passable. "Would love to find a position where I could at least occasionally dress. Will relocate."

ALABAMA (350- 369-)

ANNE ARMSTRONG (AL-1478-65), P.O. Box 530431, Birmingham AL 35253

Member Tri-Ess. "Interested in crossdressing and corresponding with others. Still in the closet."

MARY JANE WALKER (N AL-P-2105-64)

Member Tri-Ess. A young 65 years old, 5'5", 165. Widowed, lives alone. Retired. "A TG, dress about 95 percent of time. Enjoy shopping and eating out en femme twice a week. Have travelled en femme. Jazz musician. Ex-railroader. Ex-commercial artist. Interested in all aspects of crossdressing, TV/TS/TG. Would like to hear from, meet others in the N.AL or GA area. Will answer all."

MICHELLE STEADMAN (NAL-P-2547-62), PO Box 16174, Huntsville AL 35802

Member Tri-Ess, Director of Sigma Rho Gamma Chapter - SERGA, Beta Chi, Sigma Epsilon. MWM, 37, hetero-CD, 5'9", 190, brown eyes, brown hair. Two children, professionals. "Married to an exceptional woman who made me blossom. We formed a chapter of Tri-Ess. My wife is the SERGA liaison for the Wives and Partners Concerns. We love to write. You may write to either or both of us."

RENEE' PHILLIPS (AL-2535-62), P O Box 241092, Montgomery AL 36124-1092

MWM, 37, 5'11", life-long TV. Go out and have passed at times. "I enjoy being soft and gentle, as feminine as I can. I adore satin and lace, shopping, socializing, fashion, arts, travel, and girl talk. Would like to meet others with similar interests. Desire meetings or correspondence. Will answer promptly."

PAULA R. (AL-P-2820-64), P O Box 020623, Tuscaloosa AL 35402

Member of Tri-Ess Sigma Epsilon, MMPI. Attended Southern Comfort. DWM, 59, 5'10", 174, TV-TG-TS? Interested in boats, cooking, theater, music, collectibles, Civil War buff, active in environmental groups, local historical preservation society. Semi-retired. Can travel at will.

LAUREN HALL (AL-P-3202-62), P O Box 55184, Birmingham AL 35255-0184

"Friendly, sincere, interested in making new friends and becoming more active in the gender community. Interests include music, literature, exercise, and sailing. Would love to hear from all who are honest, sincere, and non-exploitive. Interested in relationship with genetic female. Single, late 30's, professional."

CELESTE RICHARDS (AL-3197-62)

Member SERGA. WM, 40, 180, 5'9", married to college sweetheart. Computer nerd and Macintosh guru. "All my life, I, my family and friends knew I was different, but we didn't know what it was. Four months ago I discovered crossdressing, and that was the answer. Want to gain understanding and learn how to pass. Interested in connecting with other CDs and women."

STEPHANIE MARIE (AL-P-3516-64), P O Box 127, 3932-C Airport Blvd., Mobile AL 36608

Member ASA. Attended Southern Comfort '91. Bi-TS, 23, 5'6", black hair, brown eyes. Attractive, very passable, fun-loving girl. Interested in travel, movies, nature, exciting night life, and clubs. "Would love to meet other attractive TSs and especially bi/gay women. Couples also write! Love to relocate. Photo/SASE please."

TENNESSEE (370- 384-)

TAMMI MCINTYRE (E TN-P-1732-63)

Member Crossroads. Participant Coming Together, Be All, Fantasia Fair. Tall, vivacious, fun-loving lady. "I love to shop. Have done some public speaking. I also love to go out dining and dancing. I would like to hear from others interested in our culture. I will try to respond to all contacts."

RUBBER RACHEL (TN-1640-62) R. R., P O Box 210362, Nashville TN 37221-0362

Attractive, 6', 170, blue eyed TV. "I would like to correspond with professional, educated gentlemen and TVs interested in the company of a talented boy/girl. Sincerity, good taste, and understanding, always. Love frilled latex panties, satin slips, and flared skirts."

ROBYN K. (E TN-P-2744-64)

Member Tri-Ess. MWM, 44, 5'8", 136, passable; professional, with advanced college degree; involved in counselling. Go shopping en femme. Hobbies include singing, guitar playing, reading, fishing, and baseball card collecting. "Would like to correspond with CD/TSs as well as genetic females for tips on improving one's feminine image. I will try to answer all letters."

RITA HEFELFINGER (TN-P-2860-64), P.O. Box 732, Hermitage TN 37076-0732

Member Tri-Ess, Sigma Epsilon. MWM, hetero TV, 47, 5'6", 135. "Just married to a wonderfully supportive wife who helps with my dressing. Love to shave my entire body and go anywhere while dressed. We would like to hear from other CDs and couples who would like to meet for socializing and intelligent conversation. Promise a prompt reply."

MISSISSIPPI (386- 396-)

REBECCA ALLISON (MS-P-3237-63)

Member Tri-Ess. MWM, 45, hetero CD, 5'11", 160, 14. Interested in travel and reading. "I love being Rebecca when possible, but family and professional restraints make cross-dressing very limited. Personal meetings not possible at this time, but I will try to answer all correspondence."

SISSY S. (MS-NP-3443-63)

Member of Tri-Ess, Beta Chi. 5'11", 190, SWM, 36, hetero. Interested in being a woman and meeting women and CDs in MS. "Love going to restaurants, movies, and shopping as Sissy. Seek supportive females for friendship/ relationship. I enjoy being a girl, don't you?"

WENDI F. YARBROUGH (MS-3423-63)

SWM, 6'2", 200, greying blond, blue eyes. 48, pre-op TS. Interested in carpentry, truck mechanics, catalogs, obtaining hormones, learning to dress and apply makeup, having electrolysis as often as I can afford it. "Here in South Mississippi it's hard to find the proper counseling and medical assistance for pre-op TSs and TVs. There are no groups to help one get out of the closet."

KENTUCKY (403- 427-)

LINDA BUTEN (KY-P-2001-62)

Member Crossport, IFGE Board of Directors. Participant Be All, Coming Together. MWM TV, 6', 180. "Been in public for years, and understand self and others well. Wife and children know, understand and love Linda as an extension of my personality. Enjoy dating tall, well-mannered gentlemen who know how to treat a lady to the finer things in life."

PATRICIA HALL (KY-NP-2035-65)

Member IXE, Louisville Gender Society. "Hello! I am a person who is exploring and enjoying the beauty of womanhood. My other interests include folk dance, vegetarian cooking, peacekeeping, and feminist spirituality. I enjoy meeting with visitors to Louisville."

LAURA RENEE PIERCE (KY-P-2843-64)

Member Cross-Port. Participant Be All '91. Pre-op TS, 44, 5'6", 170, blue eyes, brown hair. Interested in computers, cooking, fashion, photography, learning more about make-up, hairstyling, dancing, and being a lady. "Living full time as a woman. After many years, goals are being reached, feel good about who I am. Love to meet new friends to lend support. Will do my best to answer all."

SARAH ANN O'NEILL (KY-NP-2916-64)

S, M-F TS, 5'7", 145, 32, seeking hormones. Interested in gardening, music, theatre, reading, sports cars and men, clothes, shopping. "Would like to hear from TV/TSs in IN, KY, WV areas. Travel throughout Southeast. Would like to hear from men interested in TSs."

S'HER LEBONNE (KY-P-3519-64)

5'9", 160, 10/12, nicely proportioned, computer programmer, married with non-supporting wife. Interested in fashion and beauty tips, modeling, music, stage. "Help! New lady (four years in closet) in Tiny Town, USA needs supportive sisters. Lonely and near desparate. Would love to hear from successful transitions to give me ideas on how to escape this oppression. Try to answer all!"

KARLA F. (KY-3371-62)

DWM, 45, 5'6", 150. "Enjoy the contrast of both personas through the looking glass. My wife didn't. Karl is a masculine, outdoorsy engineer. Karla is a discreet business woman, shy and in the closet. Both are attractive, creative, adventurous, and overeducated world travelers. Would enjoy exploring all facets of life with TVs, TSs, or understanding GGs or couples."

OHIO (434- 457-)

MICHELLE RICHARDS (S OH-P-0954-69)

Member Paradise, Cross-Port, Alpha Omega, Tri-Ess, Sigma Epsilon, Empathy, FIL, Serenity, and Tiffany. Hetero crossdresser, 5'9", 170, educated, friendly. Married 20 years to an "A" wife. An original organizer of Paradise. "I enjoy crossdressing, hi-heels, 'girl talk,' and picture-taking sessions. Need help on feminine voice. Started dressing at seven. Now in late 40's"

KIMBERLY S. GRAYCHECK (SW OH-1628-62), P O Box 751632, Dayton OH 45475

"Thirty-four-year-old crossdresser interested in improving all aspects of feminine style. Hope to meet intelligent, interesting people to help with new behavior. GG/TV/ TSs all welcomed. Inexperienced, but willing to learn. Will try to answer all who write."

CATHERINE L. ANDREWS (OH-P-1770-63)

Member Transpitt. Participant Be All, Lambda Ball. MWM CD, 5'7", 170, 45. "As a lifelong CD I have accepted myself for who I am.

I enjoy meeting new people and corresponding. Deeply committed to the IFGE. I enjoy outreach programs and working for the good of our entire community."

MARY R. (OII-1731-65)

Hetero, SWM, 35, CD, 12T, long brown hair, green eyes, gentle, passive, and very shy. Interested in fashions, cooking, shopping, and everything feminine. "Would love to hear from any genetic woman. My goal is to be in total rôle reversal with a sincere woman who understands my feelings, and who appreciates a male who dresses in feminine fashions."

SUSAN M. (N OII-P-2053-64)

Member Tri-Ess, Alpha Omega. Divorced, hetero CD. 51, 6', 185. "Enjoy fishing, camping, old movies, and helping youngsters in Little League Baseball. Dress 2-3 times a week, still in closet. Want to correspond with hetero CDs in the Huron-Erie County area. If you are still in closet, and frustrated, Sue would make a great girlfriend. Discretion expected."

LAURA WHITE (NE OH-NP-2406-64)

Member Parasise. Tall, leggy TV who loves the total feminine look. Enjoy aerobics, dancing, travel and reading. "I am interested in meeting males, females, couples or other TVs in the Western Cleveland area. Am attractive, successful professional who is just getting to know myself and understand my inner feminity."

MARILYN CRISTI (NE OII-1919-63), P.O. Box 33496, Cleveland OH 44133

Member Paradise Club, Director of Outreach Education. Participant 1991 Be All Programs/ Speakers Chair. Legal, full-time woman. "Seeking responses from your organization's outreach personnel regarding best techniques in dealing with mixed audiences. Include any dates that you might be passing through Ohio and your availability for outreach."

MARJORIE MILLER (OII-P-2710-64)

Member of Paradise Club. SWM, 5'7", 170, 47. Interested in photography, working on cars. "I answer all letters received. Picture for picture. Meeting is a possibility. Been crossdressing since a child. Go out dressed occasionally driving around in my car."

JENNY W. (NE OH-2714-64), 23146 Lorain #171, Cleveland OH 44070

6', 175, hazel eyes, brown hair. Interested in UFOs, hair fetishes, spirituality, uniting male/female soul through meditation. "Bi-TV seeking women and men for correspondence, meeting. Fetish for long hair. Love fall, art films, and the love of an understanding friend. Does anyine wish to join me?"

JOYCE S. (SW OII-P-2925-65)

Member Tri-Ess, Cross-Port. SWM, CD, 5'11", 180, 58 years young. Interested in reading, music, gardening, traveling. "Go out dressed about once a week--to movies, concerts, and shopping. Want to meet other CD/TSs to share these activities and gain help in being more feminine. Will answer all letters."

MARJORIE MILLER (NEOII-2719-64), P.O. Box 44006 Biddulph Rd., Brooklyn OH 44144

Member Paradise Club. SWM, 5'7", 165. Interested in photography and working on cars. "Dressing off and on since a child. Go out driving, and take short walks dressed. Alone and nervous when I'm out. Would like to meet someone in SW Cleveland area to dress and go out with. I'm somewhat passable, though afraid to go out in daylight."

CATHERINE MICHALEK (OH-2877-64)

"I love shopping for my wardrobe. I have a collection of books and magazines on crossdressing. I hate male clothes and don't own any. I have dressed since childhood as female. I am a full-time TV. I enjoy corresponding with TVs, and will answer all. Please send pictures."

PATRICIA B. (OII-3026-62)

Member Tri-Ess, Alpha Omega Chapter. Attended Be All 1991. MWM, 65, 5'10", 160, retired customer service manager. Interested in dressing and being a woman, being outdoors walking and hiking, photography, and reading. "Found I was a CD a few years ago. Wife knows, is trying to accept and be supportive, but it's not going well. Five children do not know. Help! Going back into closet."

JENNY R. (OH-3118-62)

6', WM, 135, blue eyes. Interested in long walks, motorcycles, and learning to pass. "I am a novice CD who would like some friends for mutual support and possible excursions outside our closets."

JULIE S. GILBERT (SW OII-P-3117-62)

SWM, TV, 35, 5'8". Interested in new age music and meeting new people. "I am warm and caring, well adjusted and friendly. My passion is getting all dolled up in short, full petticoats and pretty party dresses to enjoy quiet romantic evenings. Would love to date sincere, discreet gentlemen, and meet TVs who love dressing in petticoats, aprons, and ultra-feminine outfits. Can travel."

BRENDA ROBSON (SW OH-P-3154-65)

MWM, hetero TV, 45,190, 5'11". Hooked on nylon, silk, and lace, but need total look. "Unknowing spouse limits opportunities to dress. Feel womanly inside. Been out twice, but afraid to do it again. Love to correspond with warm, sensitive, and sincere TVs. Please include photo."

JOAN B. (OH-3224-62)

MWM, 46, Bi-TV, 175, 5'6", professional, honest, intelligent, caring, and discreet. Don't pass well. Interested in sports, everything feminine, romantic evenings, and long walks. "Want to write and meet TV/TSs and GGs for friendship and help in becoming more feminine and passing. Wife does not approve. Central Ohio area, but travel extensively. Trying to come out. Will answer all."

LUELLA M. GREENE (OH-3239-62)

Single, 51, 6'2", 178, slender, blue eyes, brown hair. Interested in music, beekeeping, gardening, cooking/baking, learning to sew, and calligraphy. "Have indulged in cross-dressing since age 14. Worked as a pit musician in drag while touring with La Cage aux folles for nine months. Sort of enjoyed it."

THERESA R. (OH-3244-63) T. Rice, P O Box 9844, Brook Park OH 44142-9844

Member Paradise Club. SWM, 39, TV, 6'6", 265, black hair, brown eyes. Interested in reading, nature, camping, golf, sports, traveling by car in the countryside. "Been dressing for fifteen years. Still in closet. Afraid to venture out. Like to meet other TV/TSs, understanding women. Have found peace and happiness with myself and now wish to share this with others. Will reply to all."

DEBBIE C. (OH-P-3286-63)

Member Cross-Port. Hetero, TV, 5'9", 165, 32, light brown hair, green eyes. Interested in bicycling, golf, movies, billiards, motorcycling, and sports cars. "Looking for a genetic woman who likes a man with a softer side for a possible long-term relationship. Wish to hear from and meet other TV/TSs in the Cincinnati area. Somebody please help me with my hair and makeup."

WENDY A. (OH-P-3361-62) W. N. A., P O Box 845, Reynoldsburg OH 43068-0845

Married, 5'10", 180, 29, professional. Interested in computers, photography, and making new friends. "Would like to meet others with similar interests to discuss personal experiences, motivations, and feeling for mutual support."

JENNI FREE (OH-3684-65)

DWM, 5'7", 140, brown hair, brown eyes, mid-thirties. Interested in golf, bowling, shopping, cooking, being Jenni. "Have crossdressed forever. Supportive girlfriend. Looking for other couples to share this lifestyle and become friends. SE, EC OH area helpful. Please help us out of the closet."

WILLOW M. (OH-3690-64)

BMM, CD/pre-op TS, 6', 280, 38. Interested in reading, camping, shopping, contacting other pagans. "Am just beginning to express my true nature and move towards full womanhood. Would like to hear from all sisters who are on the road. Willing to write to all and help sisters out of the closet. Together we can make a difference in our world. Wll answer all who write."

CINDY TRAUM (OH-NP-3589-63)

Member Crystal Club. Hetero, CD, 5'8", medium build, brown eyes, 40's, German/American, college education, Vietnam Veteran, professional. "Lifelong CD. Enjoy going places en femme. Like photo sessions, dining at nice restaurants, classical music, oldies music, theater and traveling. Usually express the career-woman look. Love sexy lingerie and evening gowns."

INDIANA (463- 479-)

BARBARA ELLEN BERTRAND (IN-P-2324-62) P.O. Box 728, New Albany IN 47151-0728

Member Cross-port, Chicago Gender Society. Participant 1991 Be-All. TS 5'3", 135, 35, brown hair, hazel eyes. "Finally getting together with people to help me through transition. Would like to correspond and meet with TSs and TVs to get a small local group started. I enjoy Sci-Fi, Roman and Greek art, archeology, and history of ancient civilizations."

KAREN M. (C IN-0807-64)

Member IXE. 6', 160, professional, college degree. Interests include reading, sports. "Trying to integrate Karen into a very busy life. Looking for friends in the community for support. I'm especially interested in meeting more women accepting of my qualities and quirks."

YVONNE COOK-RILEY (IN-P-1009-99)

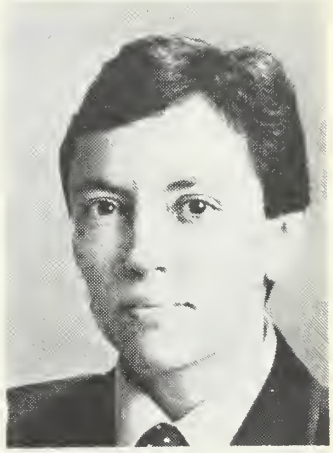
IFGE Director of Operations, IFGE Board of Directors, Chrmn Finance Committee. Lifetime member IXE. IFGE Trinity Award, 1991. Friendly and sincere individual who enjoys all people who are involved in gender issues.

RONNY S. (IN-NP-1712-62) R. Schroeder, P O Box 1432, LaPorte IN 46350

M TV, 43, 5'7", 150, brown hair, brown eyes, open-minded. Interested in shopping, model railroading, stock car racing, nature, wild life, being a girl. "Want to meet married or single TV/TS/TGs who go out dressed for friendship and to go out with my wife and me. Will also write those too far away. Be serious, mature."

DEBORAH ANNE K. (IN-NP-2011-65) A. Kinsey, P.O. Box 550, Roanoke IN 46783

Member Tri-Ess. Attended Be All '91, '92. MWM, TV, 51, 5'9". Interested in gardening, boating, bowling, handgun and rifle target-shooting, computers, cooking. "My wife is aware but has no further interest. I am a stay-at-home type person, love to help in background on projects. Rather bashful, but like to meet others. Will try to answer all correspondence."



DAN COOK-RILEY (IN-P-1802-99)

Member IXE, IFGE Staff. Female CD, 40. Sincere, caring individual. Interested in corresponding with other female-to-male CD/TSs. Enjoys hiking, dancing, T'ai Chi Ch'uan, talking with others and helping others "coming out."

KRYSTLE C. (IN-2312-62)

Hetero CD, 49, 5'7", 140, small-boned (look 39). "Raised as a girl for seven years by mother. Hair was curled nightly, and was given home permanents. Slept in night-gowns. Especially love beauty shops, makeup, beautiful night-gowns, and shopping. Seek relationship with a real woman who likes the soft side of a man, and can help me feel better about myself. Sincere and affectionate."

VICKIE MANSFIELD (C IN-P-2647-64), P.O. Box 29408, Indianapolis IN 46229-0408

Member IXE. TS, 49, 6' and graceful. "I am living full time and anticipate SRS in December.

Successfully self-employed and am venturing into real estate. Active in the Catholic Church, Dignity, MSIA, and enjoy working with the gender and gay/lesbian community. I enjoy cooking, dancing, fine wines, good conversation, and will do my best to answer all letters."

JAMIE STONE (IN-P-2789-64)
Member IXE, Cross Port, IFGE. 6', 150, 40, brown hair and eyes, TV with TS desires. Interested in photography, biking, reading, music, dressing, good food and conversation, and romantic movies. "Looking forward to meeting and corresponding with other TV/TSs."

MICHELLE H. (IN-P-3099-62)
Single TV, TS tendencies, 35, 6', 180, blue eyes, brown hair. Interested in music, Star Trek, football, lingerie, breast development. "In and out of the closet the last few years. Would like to correspond with other TVs and TSs. Very interested in development on hormones and in trading pictures and letters. Will respond to all who write."

GAIL A. (IN-2526-62)
Member IXE, St. Louis Gateway Femmes, Louisville Gender Society. Attended Be All, Tri-Ess Holiday En Femme, Texas T Party, IFGE convention. 5'6", passable. Interested in dining, antiques, shopping. "Have enjoyed discovering and watching my femme side mature. Want to meet others from the Evansville area."

RIKKI B. (C IN-2578-62), P.O. Box 1962, Anderson IN 46014
Bi TV/TS, 35. "Shy and lonely emerging transsexual needs understanding friends to help with my transformation."

RONNY S. (IN-P-3349-64)
R. Schroeder, P O Box 1432, La Porte IN 46350
42, 5'7", 160, brown hair, blue/grey eyes. "Love cooking, cleaning, sewing, shopping, yard sales, second-hand stores, walking, talking, holding hands. Hugs and kisses. Am not pretty, but I love to be a woman and be treated as one. Wear all kinds of clothes from evening gowns to bathing suits, and everything in between. Seeking friends. Any reply welcome."

ELEANOR REED (IN-P-3530-63)
Member the Hollywood Group. Post-op TS, 5'9", brown hair, blue eyes, good figure, always pass. Interested in fine art, theater, fine dining, cozy evenings home, and travel. "Live and work full time, and have for many years. Professional nurse. Seek easy going man to enjoy personal time with. Also like to write to TS sisters."

ANNIE J. (IN-3400-63)
Attended Be All '90 and '91. 5'11", 170-80, light brown hair. "I am interested in feminism, myth, and culture, which means that I am interested in everything. Have been living full-time except for work and certain family obligations for about six months and loving it. Started attending a local Unitarian Fellowship in January and am actively moving out into social activities."

RHONDA DEE S. (IN-3170-62)
5'8", 140, 44, brown eyes and hair. Interested in flying, computers, gender issues, support. "Would like to correspond and/or meet those with similar interests."

CHRISTINE NICOLE L. (IN-3233-62) Roger A. C. Luedeke, P O Box 473 (#874256) A-3-S, Westville IN 46391-0473
Member of Serenity. DW sister, 28, 5'9", 135-40, presently incarcerated, but due out soon. Wish to correspond with others for true friendship, advice, etc. Sincere about being me, and would like to help others. Am open minded and have a variety of interests. Am discreet and expect same. Will answer all who write."

MICHIGAN (480- 499-)

MILESA PHAR (MI-P-0976-63), P.O. Box 196, Garden City MI 48135
Member Crossroads. Participant: 9 Be Alls. Past President and newsletter editor of Crossroads. Married TV. Enjoys photography, motorcycling, travel, occasionally go out as Milesa. "Have lectured at colleges about TVism. Was past coordinator of Be All Convention. Phone line outreach at Crossroads. Produced audio tapes for wife and TV understanding."

JENNIFER ANN NELSON (SE MI-P-1165-64) Jennifer N., P O Box 431726, Pontiac MI 48343
Member Crossroads. 5'11", 160, 14, brown hair, blue eyes. "Cherish time as Jennifer. Just getting to know myself, understand my feelings as a woman. Love short skirts, silk dressing, and heels. Love to meet sisters, and be escorted on my travels. Will respond to your letters as best I can."

BOBBI JAMES (MI-1639-63) R. James, P O Box 251, Warren MI 48090-0251
40, MWM, hetero, 6'4", 250. Interested in travel, shopping. "I travel Michigan, Ontario, W. New York, Indiana, and would like to meet and socialize with other girls like myself. Don't pass, but still enjoy my feminine side. Am on hormones, but do not think I will pursue surgery. Have an understanding wife who supports my needs. Would enjoy hearing from and meeting people in my travel territory."

MARCIA ANN T. (E MI-P-1871-63)
Member Tri-Ess, Crossroads. Attended 1991 Be All. WM TV, 5'10", 165, 60's. "Tri-city area, very experienced, having shopped and dined in public for over 25 years. Love to share experiences with other sisters. Love to correspond, and promise prompt reply. Happy to share, help, and advise others."

ROBERT K. (SE MI-2002-64)
Single male, 5'8", 170, 28, educated. "I would like to correspond/meet an ultra-feminine, pre- or post-op TS. I appreciate a creative mind as much as an attractive face and figure. Enjoy travel, tennis, skiing, movies, fine food, and stimulating conversation."

DENISE BEACH (C MI-P-2483-63)
Pre-op TS, 165, blond hair, blue eyes, 43, single. Enjoys movies,

shopping, warm conversation, and helping others. "Am on hormones, had legal name change February '91. I have overcome many obstacles and would be happy to help others who seek advice."

RANDI N. (SE MI-2581-63), P.O. Box 46100, Mt. Clemens MI 48046

Member Crossroads. 5'9", 170, brown hair/eyes. Interested in movies, football, being as feminine as possible. MWM, Bi. "Have been cross-dressing for years. Will be out of the closet next spring when I separate from the military. Expect to start hormones then. Want to correspond with others in Michigan."

MARSHA K. (SE MI-NP-2719-64)

MWM, hetero CD, 6'2", 218, 42, frosted or red hair, triple pierced ears. "Enjoy golf, boating, travel, and having a good time. Love dressing and going out. Love pierced earrings, shoes, and good looking clothes. Just started going out. Like to hear from other sisters, especially those in the MI area, and meet and go out."

P. J. OTTENS (MI-2745-63), P.O. Box 27514, Lansing MI 48909

Member Crossroads, IME. 30, 5'6", 135. Androgynous Hispanic, M-F TG, 6-year civil servant. Interested in bicycling, muscle cars, road trips, music, and dancing. "Seek support and friendship in the Lansing area. Also seek employment in the southwestern states: AZ, NV, CO, NM."

CINDY F. DINSER (MI-3010-65), P O Box 651, Whitmore Lake MI 48189

Member Crossroads, IME. Well-liked, good worker. Interested in swimming, bowling, bicycle rider. "Been with Crossroads nine years, IME five years. Been to ten Be Alls. We also hold a picnic once a year in the country. We have a nice turn out every year. Please write if you want to. Love, your sister, Cindy."

JUDITH ASHBY (MI-3079-65)

Member of IME. Single TV with TS tendencies, passes well, 5'6". Interested in shopping for women's clothes, reading, feminine conversation, travel. "I would like to meet or correspond with anyone, male or female, who likes wearing women's clothes, or who would like to try it. Am experienced and could help those just starting, or those coming out of the closet. That's not a fun place to be."

JOAN HERESY (MI-P-3299-62), P O Box 13263, Lansing MI 48901

Member Crossroads (Royal Oak) and IME (Grand Rapids). 6'6", slender 190, 34, single. "Free lance artist using many mediums. Enjoy all aspects of femininity, quiet evenings at home, art galleries, most music, movies, and home improvement. Height hinders public acceptance, so I express Joan discreetly. Would love to hear from any/all of my sisters. Will reply thoughtfully ASAP. Hug yourself."

M. STEPHANIE WELLS (MI-P-3377-62), P O Box 32-368, Detroit MI 48232

5'9", early 40's, TG and very open minded. Interested in photography, books, computers, and other high-tech gadgets. "Formerly very outgoing and friendly, but presently just stumbling along. I'm reaching out again and hope to make a few friends, hear some different viewpoints, and regain my perspective. Travel through Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. Please write."

MARISSA C. (MI-3346-64)

Member of Crossroads. Attended Be All, Holiday En Femme, Texas T Party. Single, Asian, hetero TV, 5'9", 120, size 5. Interested in computers, shopping, very passable. "Want to correspond with other TVs and women for intelligent conversation as well as girlish chatter. Only friendship, otherwise I 'vant' to be alone."

JARA H. (MI-NP-3406-63)

SWM, 37, 160, hetero TV with TS tendencies. Real estate investor. Lifelong TV. Interested in lingerie, lace, stockings, heels, silks, skirts, pretty dresses, sports, music, animals. "Would like to meet with other TV/TSs for friendship, etc. Need assistance and assurance from others to help me pass in public. Looking for back issues of Tapestry."

DIANE C. (MI-NP-3740-65)

SWM, hetero, CD, 34, 5'11", 160, blue eyes, blonde hair, 14/16, professionally employed. Interested in all things feminine, shopping, dressing, jazz/classical music, theater, fine arts, wines & restaurants. "Lifelong, closeted CD. Sensitive, empathetic. Want to finally allow femme self to blossom. Eager to perfect sophisticated, elegant image & personality to match. Seek friendship and correspondence, relationship, perhaps leading to marriage."

IOWA (500- 528-)

JANET BAKER (IA-2091-64) D.R., P.O. Box 334, Ankeny IA 50021

WM, 39, 175, 5'11". Artist. Interests include ceramics, prints, painting, gardening, animals, archeology, erotica, metal and wood working. "Would like to meet new friends with similar interests."

WISCONSIN (530- 548-)

LINDA LEE ATHIE (WI-P-0529-62), Box 340421, Milwaukee WI 53234

TS, 5'7", 165-175, blue eyes, brown hair or whatever color I decide to wear. Born August 1949. Interested in all things feminine, history of WW 2, war gaming, and photography. "Wish to correspond with anyone who wishes to write, and contact those whom I've written in the past. Wish correspondence only. Answer all."

JANET LYNN H. (WI-P-2141-65)

Member Tri-Ess, Chi Chapter. SWM, 35, professional person. "Am into photography and travel. Love to shop for anything feminine and dressing up. Have been a CD for as long as I can remember. Love to hear from all who would care to write. Am trying hard to improve my femme side."

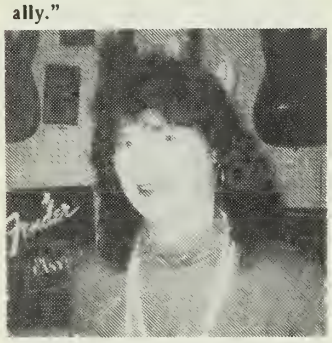
PAULA M. (W WI-2036-64)

Tri-Ess National, Chi chapter (Chicago). Participant Be All, Holiday En Femme, Fall Harvest Weekend. MWM, CD, 76, 5'5", 160. Retired professor. Artist (painter), musician. Interested in all the visual and performing arts, especially classical music and jazz, creative writ-

ing, astronomy. "Blessed with happy marriage of fifty years to fully accepting, wonderfully supportive wife. We travel everywhere, do everything as two women. Correspondence invited."

MARTHA M. (WI-1459-62)

Member Chi Chapter, Tri-Ess, Chicago Gender Society. Attended Be All '89, Holiday En Femme '91. 5'6", 150, 40. Interested in camping, hiking, cross country skiing, jogging, classical and light rock, folk, woodworking, and gardening. "Only come to accept my feminine side over the past five years. Don't dress or get out much, but would like to. Not the greatest correspondent, but will answer all, eventually."



KATHY KLINE (WI-P-2234-65)

42, single male. "I've been dressing since 10 years old. Love music, karate, shopping and movies. Would like to meet female who can accept what I am. Will correspond with other sisters."

CATHY K. (WI-2898-63)

47, 6'6", 18 ultra tall. Married to my very best friend. Interested in outdoor activities, visiting with friends. "My wife and I would like to expand our circle of friends in the gender community. We are also available to newcomers to the transgender community as we are very aware of the fact that there is no help available in North Central WI."

AMY KARSTAEDT (WI-3134-62) P O Box 1301, Sheboygan WI 53082-1301 Brown hair and eyes. 175, 5'10". Interested in camping, hiking, biking, cooking, music, and reading "Am looking to meet transsexuals living in Wisconsin for friendship, companionship, and support."

TANYA K. (WI-3275-62)

MWM, mid 40's, 5'10", 175, ex-military, college graduate, professional, with strong religious background. Interested in music, aviation, religion, and my family. "CD since childhood. Travel and dress in hotel room, but want to go out. Family does not know. Hope to be able to tell wife. Like classic and elegant styles. Would like to hear from those with similar interests."

BRENDA H. (WI-NP-3695-65)

Attended Holiday En Femme '91. MWM, early 40's, 5'9", 155. Interested in photography, fashion, traveling, current affairs, golf, computers, physical fitness, and gender community. "After suppressing CD desires for years, I'm coming back. Love dressing and going out. Enjoy theater, fine dining, non-rock nightclubs, and, of course, shopping malls. Tend to feminine professional style. Want to hear from similar CDs. Photo appreciated."

JAMI B. (WI-P-3456-63)

Member of Tri-Ess, Chicago Gender Society. 6'3", 179, 39, MWM. "My work consumes much of my time, but when I am off, I love to read and to discuss ideas and life on into the night. I enjoy biking, camping, and swimming. I also enjoy vegging out with old movies. If I were rich I would travel - preferably by train . I am a nurturing person and a devoted parent."

GINA CARR (WI-3635-64), P O Box 23139, Milwaukee WI 53223

MWM, 6', size 20, hetero, with supportive spouse. "Enjoy shopping with wife for items, especially lingerie, and trying things on. Lifelong CD just now getting into total feminization. Would like to hear from like couples, or other CD/TVs in the Madison area for future meetings. No pros, please."

CATHYBROWN(WINP3698-65)

S, 30's, 5'9", 155. "Lifelong TV with occasional TS thoughts. Almost passable, but need a supportive push for public outings. Would like to meet sincere TV/TS or genetic females for sharing, feminine appearance improvement, and public outings. Interested in forming an Upper Great Lakes support group. Will answer all with a photo."

KINKI M. (WI-P-3445-63), P O Box 1124, Madison WI 53701-1124

37, Bi-CD. "Want to relocate to either coast and share an apt. with another TG or join a TG co-op. Sing and play harmonica. Would like to form a varied rock band centered on fun, liberal tunes, and skirts. Write if interested or if you want to share experiences, photos."

MINNESOTA (550- 567-)

MARY N. (MN-1740-63)

Member CLCC. Attended Be All, Fall Harvest Weekend, Spring Fling. MWM, 5'7", 155, blue eyed blonde. Enjoy travel, water skiing, shopping, and going to restaurants en femme. "Have been crossdressing for as long as I can remember. Have come to accept myself for who I am and enjoy it. Live in small west Central Minnesota town, but travel to the Twin Cities often."

JENNIFER O. (MN-P-0570-67)

Member CLCC. Attended Fantasia Fair. 6'2", 175. Interested in classical organ music, racquetball. "Married to a warm, understanding woman. I like to express my feminine side at home and occasionally at local club meetings. Splurged and attended Fantasia Fair the last two years. Enjoy hearing from people with similar interests."

VANESSA S. (MN-P-1168-64), Box 11771, St. Paul MN 55111-0771

5'11", 165, brown hair & eyes, 40's, 16, passable, hetero CD. Interested in psychology, theology, music, books, golf, femininity, and the gender community at large. "Love dressing and going out. Happily married to supportive wife. Working on degree in counseling. My wife and I are deeply committed to the teachings of Jesus Christ and try to live accordingly. Cherish my femininity and found that I am much happier on allowing my femme self to emerge."

REGINA S. (MN-0383-64)

White gender dysphoric, 5'8", 150, 43, celibate by choice and convictions. Interested in libertarian politics, history, Victoriana, reading, writing, and contemplative spirituality. "Law school graduate, but have many non-legal interests. I would just like to find a few sincere friends if any exist out there. Thanks."

ST. PAUL PATTI F. (E MN-P-0735-62)

Participant Dream '78. 5'10", 185, 44, divorced, hetero, Vietnam veteran. Interested in modeling school, garage sales, human rights issues, church activities, and Emotions Anonymous. "Twin Cities area and out of the closet. I attend church and EA as St. Paul Patti. Live in high-rise housing, have received positive comments about my femme self. Life is too short to be spent in a closet. As Popeye said, 'I yam what I yam, and I'm glad I yam!'"

WENDY PETERSON (MN-NP-2193-65) W. Peterson, Box 617, Stillwater MN 55082

29, 5'10", 13/14 going to 11/12, brown hair and eyes. Interested in high heels, dresses, garters, meeting others with like ideas, traveling, movies. "Been dressing most of my life, and find it very relaxing. Enjoy getting in touch with others who dress also. Would like to make some close friends in the Twin Cities and St. Croix Valley area."

JUDY KASSE (MN-2743-64), P O Box 16143, St. Paul MN 55116

5'11", hetero, overweight. Interested in ham radio, photography. "Enjoy reading fantasy stories about he becoming she, transformation stories. Would like to exchange stories, books, etc. Still in closet. Wife and family do not know."

DEBBIE DAVIS (MN-2396-63)

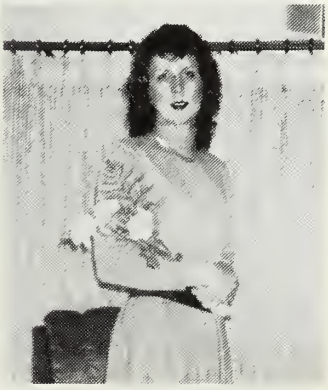
Member CLCC. Attended Coming Together '90. MWM, TV, 5'9", 12/14, early 40's. "Happily married to a wonderfully supportive wife. Love being feminine and have fully accepted my feminine self. Out often in public. Active in local organization and our outreach program. Give presentations at local universities, and medical and psychiatric centers. Love sailing, wind surfing, water skiing, writing, computing, and SHOPPING!"

KATHERINE H. (MN-1994-63)

Member CLCC. Participant Fantasia Fair. DWM TV with TS tendencies, mid 30's, live as a woman part time. Enjoy music, movies, theater, cooking, tennis, golf, decorating. "Love to relax and let my femme side take over. Want to make friends as Kathy. Pass. Would love to hear from you."

MIRA LaCOUS (SE MN-P-2818-63), P O Box 13659, St. Paul MN 55113

Member MFGE, CLCC, co-sysop LateNight BBS. M-F TS, 29, very tall, slender, long hair, quite passable, living about one-third time as a woman . . . soon more. "Love getting out and meeting friends. Life is great since I started transitioning. Starting TS program at Univ. of Minn. Looking for friendship, sharing with TV/TS/GG. Write so we may correspond and/or meet. Not looking for anything sexual."



DIANE KANE (MN-NP-3107-65), P O Box 16756, Duluth MN 55807

MWM, CD, 27, 5'10", slender, wife semi-supportive. "I enjoy creating a pretty and feminine appearance. I would enjoy corresponding with others, especially in N MN. Photo would be great! Let's get to know one another. We can never have enough friends."

MICHELLE P. (MN-P-3425-63)

MWM, tall, slender, with a very supportive wife. Interested in high heels, panties, garters, and nylons. "Would like to correspond with others in MN and elsewhere."

REBECCA ANNE JACKSON (MN-P-3526-63) R. Jackson, P O Box 189, East Grand Forks MN 56721

SW Bi-TV, 5'6", 35, 140. Interested in sports, R & R music, having fun. "Lonely in N MN. Love to correspond with TV/TS or understanding females. Clean, safe, and very understanding. Professional income and free to travel."

SOUTH DAKOTA (570- 577-)

LINDA LEA JEFFRIES (SD-2353-62)

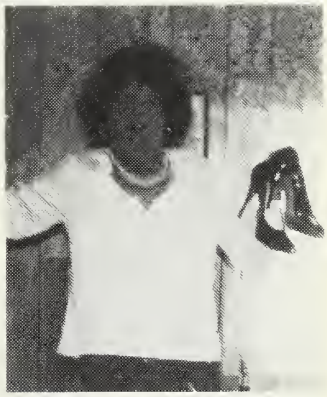
Member of CLCC. 5'8", 150, 44, single, never married. Interested in history, politics, jazz, baseball, cooking, and shopping. "I am a lifelong CD and TS now moving towards my eventual goal of SRS and full time life as a woman. Would like to hear from other TSs or TVs from South Dakota or SW Minnesota."

SAMANTHA OCKER (SD-3209-62)

My own, long, red hair, 6'4", 200, blue eyes, very long legs, SWM, biTV. Interested in computers, fishing, camping, shopping, snuggling, reading, AD & D, Wicca, going out with friends, travelling. "Still working on my hair styles. Love to hear from anyone. Answer all. Am looking for that special someone. Until then, would like to date."

NORTH DAKOTA (580- 588-)

MONTANA (590- 599-)



COREENE A. (MT-P-3496-63)

"Hello to all who enjoy crossdressing. I've many items to send to newer ones who enjoy the things we do and need help, clothes, etc. Drop me a line for requests. Please write. Send me a photo or two and tell me your likes and dislikes, exchange ideas. Will answer all."

DIANA L. (MT-3096-62)

MWM, TV, 42, 185. Interested in skiing, boating and camping, reading, and science fiction. "Would like to come out of the closet, but rural Montana and career make it difficult. Wife is somewhat understanding. Would like to hear from married TVs to find out how they deal with dressing and a family. I need all the help I can get."

ANDREA O. (MT-3190-65), P O Box 6673, Great Falls MT 59406

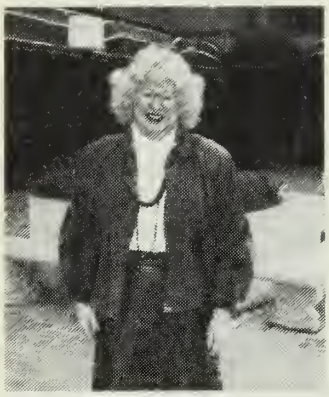
Blue-eyed, brown-haired doll. Andrea loves walking, dancing, diving, shopping, makeovers, talking, and life. "Will graduate with BS in Computer Science 12/92. After that I want to become active in TV/TS events, and find a career as Andrea."

ILLINOIS (600- 629-)

EVE B. (IL-0523-63)

IFGE Board of Directors, Chr. Ed. Resources Committee. Member Chi Chapter, Outreach, CGS. Participant Fantasia Fair, Be All, Coming Together. Awards Miss DREAM, FF Miss Congeniality, FF Miss Best Dressed, Miss Fantasia Fair. "Eve is an elegant, fun-loving

girl who 'exists' 2-3 days a week. Does many presentations with Naomi O. (IL) before professional and college audiences to help 'educate' on our lifestyle."



NAOMI O. (IL-P-0257-63), Box 342, Chicago IL 60690

Member Chi Chapter Tri-Ess. Attended Coming Together, Be All (Founder), Holiday En Femme, Fantasia Fair. Named Ms. Fantasia Fair. Won Tri-Ess Outreach Award. Full-figured Femme Fun! Interested in photography, crossdressing, and history. Attorney, author of "Legal Briefs" column in Tapestry.

GLORIA WRIGHT (IL-P-0613-64) G. Wright, P O Box 172, Gurnee IL 60031

President of Chicago Gender Society, member of Chi Chapter Tri-Ess. Attended Holiday En Femme, IFGE Convention, Be All. 5'3", 38 years young. Interested in writing, dancing, singing, jogging, karate. "I've been a terrible correspondent lately because of time constraints, but I'll attempt to write to those I can."

TERESA BEATRICE K. (IL-1969-64)

6'+, 40, SWM, 300, computer programmer/analyst. Interested in privacy in an automated age, ethics, chess, AD&D, science fiction, space development. "I am very much in the closet and am unlikely to come out anytime soon. There is a symbiotic relationship between the computer and myself. My hobbies tend towards the cerebral, and my crossdressing fantasies are mostly in my dreams."

GERI WATERS (IL-P-1400-65)

Member and vice-president of St. Louis Gender Foundation, assistant representative to MAGGIE. Hazel eyes and natural long hair. Good-natured Leo. Enjoys art, writing, music, cars, home decorating, and good friends. "TS looking for sisters & friends to share thoughts and get-togethers. I dress full time as a female, and am happy as such. Spouse understands and is supportive. Remember, someone does care."

MICHELLE MAGUIRE (IL-P-2125-64), P O Box 6002, Champaign IL 61826-6002

Officer CIGA, Central Illinois. Member: CGS (Chicago), IXE (Indianapolis). Married CD, 5'11", 1955 Scorpio, Engineer, Historian, Musicologist, Philosopher, Scientist, university graduate (thrice), intelligent, crazy realist. "Introspective observer, explorer, loner, Taoist, calm, humorous, optimist, nonsmoker, sensitive, heterosexual, devoted spouse and parent. Spouse supportive, but does not participate. Seeking the Tao of transgenderism."

(IL-2562-62)

29 year-old M-F, soon-to-be post-op TS. Member of CGS. "I'm willing to help people just starting out seeking gender congruity. Can help with info and a personal view of the road ahead. Will answer all. Am interested in receiving articles about gender issues from other parts of the country. Will pay you back for postage. Remember, you are not alone, and help is available."

PATRICIA CHAPMAN (IL-1560-62)

White, 45, post-op TS. "Working and going to school to get professional degree. Interested in corresponding with others who are in transition, and others."

JENNIFER R. THEISS (IL-P-2994-65) Ingrid Holm

Awards: Miss Gay Mexico, Miss Gay Germany. 5'9", red hair, green eyes, brunette, pretty, slim, very feminine. Interested in dance, entertainment, impersonations, aerobics, yoga, museums, fashion shows, night life. "Lived as a woman since eighteen. Pre-op transsexual. Worked as a female impersonator, now as a makeup artist and translator. Like to meet guys from 18-40 in the Chicago area for friendship and possible relationship. Like to hear from all my sisters."

MARY ANN FOSTER (IL-P-1823-62)

Member Chicago Gender Society, IME. Attended Be All '89-'91, Coming Together '89, Kansas City '90, CGS/IME Weekend '91, Outreach Chairman, CGS. 5'9", 140, long blond hair, love to talk and make friends. Interested in video, flying, cross country skiing, and computers. "I keep a condo in Chicago where out-of-towners are always welcome. Will find others to talk to when you visit."

TRACY SIKES (IL-P-1616-62) Tracy S., P O Box 804754, Chicago IL 60680

Tall, slim, early thirties, striving topass without question, and unsure how far to go in the transition. Interested in photography, film, art, music, and high fashion. "Hope to make new contacts nationwide. It's time to decide whether to pursue a full time transition. Would especially like to hear from those who have begun or completed the path to SRS. Want correspondence and personal meetings. I'd also like to find a TS roommate."

KAREN MICHELLE R. (IL-P-1514-62)

Member Chi Chapter. Participant Holiday En Femme. "A couple of years older and wiser. Feeling good about who I am. I still believe that being Karen is what it's all about - now more than ever. I love to help my sisters. I've heard from so many. Hope to hear from you - yes you! I wouldn't mind letters from real girls and TSs, too!"

PRISCILLA B. (IL-NP-3085-65)

Hetero, married CD. Wife is understanding and very supportive.

I'm enjoying this lifestyle very much. Wishing to correspond and exchange pictures and ideas with other TVs, especially couples who are into crossdressing. Meeting possible with honest, sincere individuals. Interests include gowns, sexy party dresses, leather and lace. Design and make some of my own costumes. Please send photo for reply."

STEPHANIE ANNE Y. (IL-P-3106-62) S. Young, P O Box 312, Oak Forest IL 60452

DWM, 38, 6', red hair, green eyes. Interested in shopping, golf, computers, baseball, movies, all things feminine. "I am slowly coming out of the closet and would like to meet and correspond with TV/TS/TG/GGs and others into this lifestyle. I can travel to meet, or entertain at home. Outgoing personality. Love to laugh and love. Please write."

CATHY W. (IL-P-3259-62), P O Box 59711, Chicago IL 60659

Member Tri-Ess, Chi Chapter. Attended Holiday En Femme. Interested in music, old cars, bicycle riding, writing. "Thirty-nine-year-old CD, married. Wife is a member of Tri-Ess. Sensitive, caring, wanting to help. Will answer all."

LAURA ELIZABETH F. (IL-3249-63)

Single, 44, 5'7", 155, educated, caring, sincere. Interested in spirituality, psychology, C G Jung, architecture, cooking, reading, clothes/jewelry/makeup. "Although I've cross-dressed since childhood, only recently begun feeling comfortable as Laura, and have started investigating my femininity. Enjoying it enormously, and would like to hear from other sisters on paths of growth towards wholeness. Also seeking understanding gentleman for companionship."

MARGO ST. VINCENT (IL-P-3384-64)

Early 30's, 5'6", plus size, SWM. Interested in historical reenactments, Native American History, life, and much more! "Love spike heels, lipstick, long nails, stockings. I get into looking slutty. Enjoy meeting nondominant GGs who could train me in feminine culture and dress. Also want to meet Chicago area GGs, TV/TSs for shopping, photography, video sessions. Answer all with photo and phone."

JOEANN C. (IL-3169-62)

5'8", 190, brown eyes. Interested in music, sports. "I am still in the closet, not ready to dress in a group, yet. I cannot pass. Would like to meet others who share my interests."

NEDRA W. (IL-3563-63)

5'11", 190, brown hair, hazel eyes, well built. Wide ranging interests including travel, geography, government, the arts, and writing. "I am looking for those who would provide companionship and enlightenment."

HEDY H. (IL-NP-3569-64)

"This rusty-haired Presbyterian (freckles, full filled silky knickers!) would join forces with a sprightly, scholarly, well-shod rhapsode who jolly well has her act together... for lyrical lettres and a faun filled fall. I am slender, shapely (40•-30-41•) and only a wee over 10 stone. What do ladies prefer?"

JAMIE R. (IL-3686-64)

6', 40ish, professional with own business. Married, wife non-supportive. "Still in closet looking for genetic girls or sisters to help me put it all together. Interests include marine biology, classic cars, and good books."

MISSOURI (630- 658-)

BARBARA B. (MO-P-0258-67)

Member: TCNE, SLGF. DWM, 51, 5'10", 160. Interested in music, writing, and fashion. "Lifelong crossdresser and have always been comfortable and well adjusted with myself. Value friendship, honesty, and discretion. Though recently forced back into closet, am finding myself again thanks to the wonderful support of my significant other. Would like to correspond with and meet similar couples in St. Louis area."

JENNIFER RICHARDS (MO-NP-2689-64)

Member StLGF, MAGGIE. Received 1992 Trinity Award, Miss Best Dressed at Fall Harvest '91, LaFemme Magnifique '85, Miss Dream '80, past officer/president StLGF. Interested in outreach, personal growth, fulfillment, encouragement of others. "You've got to give a little... take a little... and let your porr heart break a little . . . That's the glory of love."

TERRIE REESE (MO-P-2809-64)

Member Kansas City CAF. 5'10", long red hair, pass easily, TG, married to supportive, loving woman. Interested in computers, art, fashion, cosmetology. "Own Digital Dreams, a fantasy photo retouch service. Let us make you look your best. Write for free brochure."

KIMBERLY DE'ANNE DORMAN (MO-P-3036-65) Kimberly T.

Member KCCAF, GDS, KGM. Attended Fall Harvest '91. 37, 5'7", 12, squeaky clean, bi, pre-op TS. Interested in shopping, reading, photography, correspondence, and helping new girls out. "I've worn dresses since age three and always loved it. I've wanted to be a girl since age 5. I'd like to ask our closeted sisters to come out and play and enjoy our beautiful lifestyle. I answer all my mail, honest."

MELISSA TRANS (MO-3633-64), P O Box 32541, Kansas City MO 64111

MWM, 6', 200, blue eyes, brown hair. Interested in cooking, football, hunting, beautiful lingerie, shopping for female clothes. "Would love to meet TV/TS/GGs who would help me with makeup, femininity. Seek a friend to take pictures of my femme self. Am very shy and need help in getting out. Will be your trustworthy friend. Would like to share a small femme apartment."

DAVINA ANNE GABRIEL (MO-P-3427-63) Davina G.

12 years post-op TS lesbian, initiated witch, artist, writer, political activist, bohemian extraordinaire. Interested in Wicca, occult, feminism, lesbianism, art, writing, poetry, film, music, comparative religion. "Desire to correspond with other transsexuals either exclusively lesbian or bi-sexual who share any interests."

KANSAS (660- 679-)

EVELYN B. (E KS-NP-0400-64)

"Tall, thin, enjoy getting out. Interested in meeting others interested in gender issues in Kansas City and other midwestern cities. Want to perfect classy and sophisticated feminine image. Active in some of the support groups. Lots of information on local resources and friendly shops. Not into long correspondence but can help with resources in the Kansas City area."

NANCY COLE (KS-2189-99)

Member Kansas City CAF, SLGF. Participant: Coming Together, Fantasia Fair, Texas T-Party, Be All. "I have been crossdressing for years, and enjoy working with and for members of our community. I travel frequently and , enjoy just about everything, and do well for myself, both in my male and in my female role. Interests include reading, history, movies, current events, and, of course, fashion and beauty. (I'm a sucker for antebellum stuff.)"

JULIE BARNES (KS-NP-2982-64)

Member CAF. MWM, 6', 158, 51. Interested in crossdressing. "Enjoy attending the meeting with other crossdressers, and have a very supportive wife whom I love very much. Have been a lifelong crossdresser, but only broke out about a year ago. Recently found I can pass very well. Now I am even happier than before."

CHERYL BRADLEY (KS-NP-3667-64)

CD, 5'9", brunette, pretty blue eyes. Interested in aerobics, love songs, cute hair fashions and accessories. "I've always felt like a rose among the thorns. I was different than the others and knew it. Now I know you were out there all the time. Let's be friends! Would like to hear from all levels of the gender community, including supportive real females and wives of TVs."

NEBRASKA (680- 693-)

SHARE Z. (NE-2603-62)

50's, 5'10", 200, hetero, CD. MWM with supportive wife. Interested in golf, fishing, woodworking, and being a better CD. "Wife and I enjoy shopping together for clothes for her and for Share. Have made clothes for Share with wife's help."

MELISSA JEAN H. (NE-P-2742-64)

Member GIC Denver, Delta Chapter. Attended Coming Together. 47, 6'2", 195, lifelong TV, divorced. Interested in rural living, travel, entertaining, photography, fantasies, socializing, golf, fishing, and discovering new things. "This flower seems to be a real slow bloomer. Opening even under the limitations of country life. Enjoyhearing from sisters, would like to hear from any GG. Hope to get married again someday."

TAMI DIANE (NE-3284-62)

"I enjoy all that is feminine and wish to become more involved in the TV/TS community. Passable, 5'11", 37. Interested in making friends who are interested in our feminine ways. Intelligent, educated, and discreet. Enjoy going out en femme. Would like to meet sincere, understanding TV/TSs and genetic females for friendship."

GEORGE MOULTRIE (NE-3608-63), P O Box 3463, Omaha NE 68103

SBM, 52, 6'3", 195. Black hair and brown eyes. Honest, clean, safe, and discreet. Seeking TV/TSs. "Travel USA, Mexico, and Canada. Dating and long term relationship possible."

LOUISIANA (700- 714-)

LISA HART (LA-P-1717-63)

Single TV, 38, 5'10", slim figure. Quiet, sensitive female . . . occasionally. Successful systems analyst, and linguist at other times. Quite comfortable with both aspects of my personality. "I love going out when I am dressed. Have developed cherished friendships with several Tapestry correspondents. Hope to hear from others who are comfortable with their female personae."

DIANE B. (LA-P-2467-64)

D. E. B., P O Box 51611, New Orleans LA 70151-1611

Member Tri Delta Chi. MWM, 40, 6', 160, emerging CD, Gemini, engineer. Avid runner, interested in chess and snow skiing. "My wife may not understand this lifelong interest, but she is tolerant and has been helping with my appearance. I love to hear from others. I do reply to all sincere letters."

ALICE HEBERT (LA-P-2964-64)

Member Tri Delta Chi in New Orleans. TV, 6'2 1/2", middle-aged.

MICHELLE KELLY (LA-P-3054-65), P O Box 378, Natchitoches LA 71458

Member Beta Chi, Tri Delta Chi, Tri-Ess. Attended Southern Comfort '91, Fantasy Adventure '91.

JERRI N. (NW LA-2521-62), P O Box 38048, Shreveport LA 71133-8048

Member Beta Chi. Participant Texas T-Party. MWM, nearing 50, 22-24. Interested in all sports, travel, and country music. "Have enjoyed going out when I can during my travels. Would like to go out more, but am not real comfortable all the time. Travel through south and southwest. Would like hear from other hetero CDs in the area who are interested in going out."

40, 6', brown hair, blue eyes, 175. Interested in computers, coin collecting, football, and anything feminine. "Lifelong CD, married with one of four children still at home. Wife is somewhat supportive. Want to make friends, correspond, meet if possible. Travel south MS and LA. Work weekends. Free Tuesday through Thursday. Will answer all."

DIANE CLARK (LA-2840-64)

Member Tri Delta Chi and Delta Omega. Hetero, 5'11", 153, married. "Enjoy meeting people and sharing ideas. Married to a very supportive lady since Feb. '91 who helps with colors and fashions. Would love to correspond with all sisters anywhere."

KAREN SCOTT (LA-3472-64)

Member of NOW. SWM, 5'10", 170. Interested in TV, sports, soap operas. Retired widower, former Avon lady, L'Oreal hair color technician. Like wigs, makeup, and wearing all feminine attire. "Love hats, millinery, sleep en femme. Crossdressed since twelve years old. Love to hear from all CDs in New Orleans area. Write. Send pictures. I'll respond as well. Would like to attend parties, clubs, etc."

ARKANSAS (716- 729-)

STEPHENIE RENEE' F. (AR-1841-64) S. R. Fowler, P O Box 1835, Springdale AR 72765

MWM, 5'8", 145, 38, brown hair/eyes. Interested in camping, bike riding, photography, learning, being and perfecting Stephanie. "Lifelong CD, married to a once supportive, semi-understanding wife. Enjoy shopping or just going out as Stephanie as much as possible. Pass very well."

JANA II. (S AR-P-2042-64)

Member Beta Chi, Tri Delta Chi. MWM, 50's, 5'7", 165. Enjoy golf, photography, video, flying, travel. "Can we talk? Into full dressing eight years. Spouse helps, but not crazy about it. Made guarded public appearances. Love being dressed, feeling feminine. Love it all, from 38-D's to 4" heels. Love to share experiences, photos, and much more. Possibly meet in Ark, La, or Miss."

CHARLOTTEA. (AR-P-3166-62)

Attended Texas T Party '91. MWM, 5'7", 140, 40, 10-12, passable, well-educated, professional. Interested in nature, fishing, arts and humanities, good food. "Wife understands. Enjoy shopping, dining, sightseeing as a woman. Love good friends and all things feminine. Want to start an Arkansas support group. Seeking passable CD or TS friends for mutual support, visiting, shopping, etc. Would love girlfriends to share and do things with."

OKLAHOMA (730- 749-)

DIXIE BERNICE MICHELLE (OK-2018-64)

5'8", 130, long red hair, fun-loving. Interested in playing music (guitar, mandolin), shooting pool, dancing. "I've been living full time for the last two years, on hormones for three. Am not a great correspondent, but if you ever find yourself in Tulsa, I'd love to meet you, yes, you!"

RAINA PEARSON (OK-2381-62), P O Box 764, Harrah OK 73045

Member Tri-Ess, Tau Chi, Sooner Belles. MWM, mid 40's, civil servant. Interested in ham radio, photography, sewing, pierced earrings, heels and shopping. "Wife is trying to accept Raina. Have been dressing about five years. Just started going out dressed and LOVE it! May not pass well, but improving. Will answer all letters."

GEORGIA LEE II. (OK-P-3108-62)

Member Tri-Ess, Delta Omega. MWM, 62, 5'8", 165, TV/TS. Interested in fishing, boating, home making, and outdoors activities. "Just now coming out of the closet, meeting other TVs and TSs. Retired military, but still working as a computer consultant. Wife is not supportive, but knows. Will answer all."

TEXAS (750- 799-)

BETTE LEE JOHNSON (N TX-0543-63)

Member IFGE Board of Directors, Chrmn Programs Committee, Coming Together Staff, Dallas Chapter Tri-Ess. Attractive TV, 50's, sensitive, caring, outgoing, and comfortable in the joys of being a woman. "Enjoy being dressed and feminine. Told I pass well. Enjoy parties with other TVs, and being out en-femme (with discretion). Dedicated to serving 'our' world and helping people just coming out, who may need help and advice."

JANICE HILARY RUPARD (S TX-0567-63), P O Box 63112, Wetmore TX 78163-0012

Member Boulton & Park. Participant Texas T Party (co-founder), Coming Together, Fantastic Adventure, '90 In 90.' MWM TG, 5'9", 160, 18, 60's but 40. Sensitive, caring nature. Interested in classical music, play Big Band and jazz on sax, photography and everything feminine. Live alone. "Since retiring, I've developed my femininity. Janice goes anywhere. Slow, but will answer all. Your photo will be enjoyed."

RENE' FENNER (W TX-0989-63) R. Fenner, #100H, 10502 Telephone Rd., Houston TX 77075

Member Tri-Ess, GCTC, CHIC, Boulton & Park, Renaissance. Attended Coming Together, Texas T Party, Fantastic Adventure W/E. MWM, 60, 6'1", 200. Interested in amateur radio and fishing. "Have been out of the closet for over ten years. Go to restaurants, clubs, and theater dressed. Am always trying to improve my feminine image."

JANE ELLEN FAIRFAX (E TX-NP-1250-64), Box 1105, Alief TX 77411

Participant Holiday En Femme, Coming Together, Texas T Party, Southern Comfort, California Dreamin', Dignity Cruise. Chairman Tri-Ess Board, President Tau Chi Chapter, Staff Coördinator, Coming Together; WACS Honorary Woman Award; Texas T Party Outstanding Couple. 44, 6'2", chestnut hair, green eyes, interests include church, sports, music, bridge, English history, Sherlock Holmes. Jane and her wife Frances enjoy communicating with new couples and are strongly committed to integrating crossdressing and family values.

LAURA TAYLOR (TX-NP-1254-65)

WM, 5'9", 165, late 30's. My main interest is improving my femi-

nine appearance. "I enjoy my special time as Laura, and would like to hear from other CDs. My goal is to be totally passable as an attractive woman. Let's talk about makeup, wigs, fashion, and all the wonderful things that make the female lifestyle so special."

DONNA E. MOBLEY (TX-P-1734-63)

Member Tri-Ess Board of Directors. Participant Coming Together '90, '91, Texas T Party '91, Holiday En Femme '89, '90, '91, Fantasy Adventure Weekend '89. SWM, 40-something, widower. Fanatic skier/racer. Interested in scale modeling, photography, breaking nails. Widely traveled college grad, former military (combat correspondent), now professional TV/video producer. Actively involved in community activities.

KAREN MICHELLE RUSNAK (TX-1514-62), P O Box 64980-645, Dallas TX 75206

Member Tri-Ess. "You can't keep a good girl down--so you'll never know where I'll pop up next! Nothing has changed; being Karen is what it's all about. 'Nuf said!"

MARY LEE (TX-1626-62), P O Box 532535, Grand Prairie TX 75053-2535

Member Delta Omega, Arlington, TX. Attended Texas T Party '89, '90. TV to TG, supportive wife, over 60, 5'10", 160, military background, passes sometimes. Interested in reading, attending functions with my TV group, shamanism, spirituality, and the transgendered. "Have pen-pals all over the lot. Write real fiction."

CASEY COLE (S TX-1907-63), P O Box 679, Leander TX 78641

Member ETVC, Boulton & Park, Austin Second Image. Hetero TV, 39, 5'11". "Enjoy music, building my house, outdoor activities. Active in several clubs. Interested in visiting others while traveling."

CAROL BAKER (N TX-NP-2179-65), Box 1424, Waco TX 76703

Associate member of Dallas/Fort Worth Delta Omega. Attended all Texas T Parties. 5'11", 175, married with supportive family. "Outgoing. Not shy. Enjoy promoting crossgender lifestyles. Always try to present the best image possible. Love to go public, meet people, correspondence."

MARLINA DAWN MURPHY (W TX-NP-2211-65), P O Box 30413, San Angelo TX 76903-0413

Member HTGA/NW, San Angelo, Texas. Participant Texas T Party, Fantastic Adventure Weekend. MWM, 6'2, 173, blue eyes, 12, 52, professional. Interested in fishing, gourmet cooking, easy listening music, and dressing. "Editor/publisher of Petticoat Junction magazine and the Texas T Party Photo Annual. Interested in hearing from all in west TX and San Angelo area."

MARY ANN B. (TX-2194-65)

Member Tri-Ess (Delta Omega). WM, brunette, almost 40 (ugh!), 130, and 2 inches too tall. Interested in sewing, creative fashion, cooking. "I am looking to correspond with others considering or seeking a future as a TS. Very friendly and outgoing. Would love to share experiences, dreams, and hopes (fears?) for the future. Please take some time and write. Will answer promptly."

RIKKI SCOTT (S TX-NP-2201-65), Box 26031, Austin TX 78755

Member HTGA. Attended Texas T Party '91, '92. Early 50's professional man, CD for many years with tolerant spouse. Psychologist doing research on childhood and family backgrounds of CDs. Interests include classical music, pipe organ, sailing, jazz, hiking. Would be interested in hearing from all TV/TSs about their families and childhood experiences with crossdressing.

MAXINE MCDONALD (N TX-2223-62), Box 820852, Dallas TX 75382-0852

Member Delta-Omega (Dallas). Attended Fantasia Fair (11 yrs.). Awards Ms. Most Helpful, Outreach Award. MWM, 6'2", 205, 22. Dress down, not up, sort of like your average real estate sales woman. Interested in theatre pipe organ, broadcasting, video production, streetcars, computers, and communications museum. "I know I don't pass, but I try to do it with class."

SUSAN JEAN SMITH (TX-P-2235-62)

Member ETVC, Boulton & Park Society. Attended Sommernachtshall '91 (Germany), third place "Sommernachtshall Queen, 1991." 5'10", well built, very passable, very educated. Interested in writing for publication, body-building, dancing, meeting people. "Extremely good-looking Texas TV living in Europe wants to correspond with interesting, attractive people. Primarily seeking a generous man for marriage. Want to find work as a TV. Can relocate."

HEATHER WILSON (N TX-P-2384-62), Box 550802, Dallas TX 75355

Member Delta Omega. Attended Texas T Party '90, '91. Single CD, 34, tall and slender, enjoys sailing, aerobics, shopping, and expensive clothes. Looking for continued growth by socializing with other members of our community nationwide, as well as locally. Work to be happy with who I am. Still searching for a woman who understands me, too."

JOANNA STEPHENS (TX-P-2722-64), P O Box 4878, Ft. Worth TX 76164

Member Tri-Ess, Sigma Epsilon. Attended Southern Comfort, '91. Admit to 39, 5'11", 142, 10, married, pass well. Interested in photography, travel, people, shopping, modeling, and helping others. "This gal has grown up and out in the past year thanks to many wonderful sisters. Now, a new city, a new second profession, Image Consultant. Possibly the first CD at Mary Kay. Enjoy corresponding and meeting with others."

JANEY LEE (SE TX-2772-64) J. Berg, P O Box 128, Texas City TX 77592

Member Newest member of Humanity. SWM, 5'11", 140, blue eyes. Enjoy reading (amateur historian), outdoor activities, roses. "Just coming out, love to make friends. Easy listener, love to give advice. Typical Virgo. Excited about myself and new world of understanding and compassion. Please write. Would love to entertain at my home.

Like to hear from TSs and GGs who like humor, good food, and music."

ROBYN M. BERRY (TX-P-2750-64) R. M. Berry, P O Box 5813, Katy TX 77491

MWM, hetero, CD, 44, 5'8", 190. Interested in camping, computers, model railroads, dressing every chance I can. "I enjoy looking as feminine as I can, and I especially like petticoats and square dance dresses."

PHYLLIS RANDOLPH FRYE, ATTY (TX-NP-2940-65)

Member of GCTC. Organizer of first International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy. Out of Closet and successful transgendered attorney. Interested in helping people out of their closets, fighting myths and stereotypes, public speaking on our issues. "This is not '76 when I came out, this is 1992. Came out - come out. You are an okay person. Don't put up with the guilt and shame lie."

MELISSA THOMPSON (TX-3258-62)

Member HTGA. 32, 5'10", 150, married with two small children. Wife knows and is supportive if not enthusiastic. Interested in languages, cultures, and history of the Middle East. Also enjoy astronomy, country music, and running. "Only recently learned to accept myself. Greatly aided by understanding wife. Like to hear from others trying to weave their femininity into their normal lives, especially with regards to children."

FRANCINE WILLIAMS (TX-NP-3112-65)

Member Tri-Ess, Alpha Zeta, Delta Omega. "Married, hetero, extremely supportive wife. Pass well. Enjoy everything feminine, especially lingerie and pretty dresses. Interested in photography, travel, reading, shopping, and being a woman. Hope to meet others in the community soon, and participating in events, meetings, etc. Will exchange photos, correspond. Want to improve my feminine persona."

DEBBIE HAHN (TX-P-3201-62)

Member Tri-Ess. Attended Texas T Party. 6', 170, passable, separated, hetero CD. Enjoy outdoor sports, reading, and music. "Many great friends in DC, and numerous pengals. Confused by dysfunctional marriage. If she wore the pants in the family, why couldn't I wear the skirt? Adventurer, comedian, and smart aleck. Love transforming this boy into a girl. Lonely. Write, but be patient, I'm slow."

CATHRYN PARADISE (TX-3399-63)

Bi, SWM, TV/TS, 6', 160, 37. Interested in medieval history, espionage fact and fiction, science fiction and fantasy, Sherlock Holmes, Native American history and culture, genre television, jazz and pop music. "Novice TV, but my goal is to begin living full-time as a woman by the end of 1992."

NANCY BAKER (TX-P-3186-62)

Attended Fantasy Adventure Weekend. MWM TV. Lifelong CD. Wife not supportive. Interested in corresponding and meeting with understanding GG/TS/TVs. "Not passable, but can serve as escort for passable TVs and TSs. Looking forward to meeting new friends. Discretion expected and assured."

STEPHANIE SPIEGEL (TX-NP-3174-65)

5'11", 170, 35, SWM, TV for 27 years. Have TS feelings. Interested in the outdoors, dressing, rock 'n' roll, current events, dressing, . . . much more. "I dream of someday becoming a she-male movie star. Looking for a female or TS to share life with. Would also like to meet pretty TVs. Have good job. Please send photo if possible (returnable). I love you all!"

DIANNE G. (TX-3405-63)

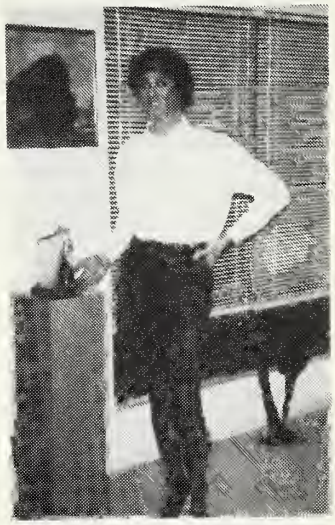
SWM, 37, 5'11", 145. Interested in art, photography, fashion, makeup, dressing, hearing from and meeting others. "Lifelong crossdresser, bi-curious. Would like to hear from others with like interest. Would like to meet anyone in the Texarkana area who desires an understanding person to share interests, time, conversation, or more."

JAY MARCH (TX-3454-63), P O Box 2672, Austin TX

Handsome, successful, athletic, WM, 42, hetero. Interested in theatre, sports, music. "Want to meet a TV/TS secure in the knowledge that she will be accorded the utmost respect and consideration. I admire femininity in every form, and find the most feminine to be a person who chooses that gender and loves to be a woman."

JERI B. (TX-NP-3626-64)

5'10", 158, brunette, brown eyes. Interested in cooking, aerobic exercise, pretty clothes. "Love celebrating femininity. It's comforting to me. Would like to communicate with others, especially in the west Texas area. Long letter and photo, please."



DONNA WALSH (TX-P-3381-63), P O Box 9692, Austin TX 78766

33, 5'9", 140. Educated professional with sense of humor. Easy going. Aware of feminine side since childhood. "Have always dressed, only recently became serious. Since accepting myself, gained the happiness and confidence that had been missing. Working hard to improve my female image and become passable. Searching for understanding woman. Seeking correspondence/meetings with TV/TSs and women. Photo (returnable) if you can."

CHERYL L. BOLEN
(TX-NP-3629-63)

Member GCTC. 5'15", shy, but artistic and fun-loving TV/TS? Interested in art, music, feminine side. "Would love to correspond with others about living as a female. Consider dating understanding and supportive hetero males."

KIM HUNTER (TX-NP-3708-64)

Single, mid-30's, 5'7", blonde, blue, taking hormones. Happy, well-adjusted, loves animals, intelligent conversation, romantic candle-lit dinners, slow dancing, cooking, classical-to-jazz, and country life (owns small farm). "Will answer all who send photo."

MONICA-LEE MARIE
(TX-P-3506-64), P O Box 550561, Dallas TX 75355-0561

Hetero CD, 29, 5'11", 150, healthy. "Enjoy conversation, restaurants, movies, reading, music, and travel. (Dressing.) Want feminine bond with secure genetic female. Comfortable with my genetic self, but seeking to perfect the full feminine crossover. My life is not without its share of humor and intellect. I'm ready to share."

COLORADO (800-816-)

SHIRLEY K. KNIGHT
(CO-P-0493-62), P O Box 1042, Pueblo CO 81002

Participant Tiffany's P-town Outing, Texas T Party, GGA Spring Fling. SWM TV, 47, 5'8", friendly, fun, and feminine. "I enjoy traveling, church activities, and going out in public dressed."

LAURA SMILEY
(CO-P-1556-62)

Member GIC - Denver, Delta Chapter, IFGE Board of Directors, Chair Fundraising Committee. Participant Fantasia Fair '89, '90, '91; T Party '90, '91, '92; IFGE Convention '91, '92; Be All '92. MWM, forties, TG/TS tendencies, 5'10", 155. Enjoy being Laura, shopping, being with friends. "Fun loving, caring person who wants to bring dignity, and acceptance to our community. Dressing since age five. Wife somewhat supportive."

ROXANNE SALEM
(C CO-2600-63)

Member GIC, Delta Chapter Tri-Ess. Attended Fall Harvest '90, '91, IFGE Con '91. 40+, SWM TV. "Enjoy meeting sisters and brothers in this fantastic community. The development and empowerment of Roxanne has brought depth, meaning, peace and contentment into my life. Keep the life force flowing and keep believing in you."

JACQUELYN ST. GREGORY
(CO-P-2923-64), P O Box, 5553, Security CO

Member GIC Denver, GIC of So. Colorado, UCRSE, PPGLCC. Attended Coming Together '91. S, TS disposition, 30's, 6'1", 153, artistic, great sense of humor, sensitive and caring. "Enjoy shopping, cooking, art, design, movies, travel, clubbing, and having a great time. My lifelong tendencies were suppressed until after I survived cancer. Very active in the gender community. Also, I am quite busy socially, constantly going out."

GERI G. (CO-P-3077-65), P O Box 27802, Denver CO 80227

MWM, hetero, 5'11", 180, 52. Interested in fishing, camping, movies, and music. Travel Rocky Mountain area. Love to go out dressed, but would like other CD friends to go out for dinner and a show. Write if you are looking for someone to go out dressed with, and if you enjoy life being a woman."

RENAE E. (CO-2948-64)

MWM, 40's, 6', 190. Interested in photography, woodworking, needlepoint. "Closeted, wife somewhat supportive. Dressing since age three. Would like to correspond with others to gain confidence."

TRILBY O. (CO-3271-62)

"I am and always have been female. I would like to get to know some men who cross-dress."

CAROLYN ELAINE K.
(CO-P-2979-64)

Member GIC/Denver, Delta Chapter/Tri-Ess. Professional writer/actor, single, self-employed. Interested in literature, history (esp. WW I), languages, bicyclying & hiking, travel (esp. England, France, and Middle East). "Passionate letter-writer. Would like to meet or correspond with Rocky Mountain sisters."

SHEETAH O. (CO-NP-3638-64)

GWM, 6', 160, 45, TV/CD. Love horses, mellow rock, funky music, writing, computers, nature, lingerie, and men. Prefer high-class call girl look. Smooth, on hormones, good legs and breasts. Enjoy dating men or girlfriend to dress with and compare notes. Good sense of humor, sensitive.

ANDREA DANIELS
(CO-NP-3726-65)

Member Tri-Ess and GIC, Denver. Attended Coming Together

'91, Fantasia Fair '92. MWM, CD, 35, 5'7", 145, blonde, blue eyes. Intersted in a wide variety of music, correspondence, restauranting, skiing, running, doing occasional Fl shows. "Fortunate to have made friends with our paraculture. Want to meet more shiny, happy people. Dying to do more shows."

LAURA ROYCE (CO-P-3227-62)

"Focused rebel, writer (dues paid; uniqueness acquired, not attempted). Just a touch (admittedly eccentric given omnibus human conditions) of philosophy, poetry, plastic art, religion, psychology, literature, politics. Classic, jazz, rock. Have valuable evidence that beautiful, highly cultivated, originating individuals exist. Seeking such criminals themselves to give witness. In is out: photo necessary."

WENDI M. (CO-3725-64)

S TV, 39, 6', 135. Interested in computers, rock climbing, skiing, and being Wendi. "Have been dressing for years, but never made it past the front door. Would like to make friends to help me get out the door. Need all the help I can get."

WYOMING (820- 831-)

LORI LARKIN (WY-P-3229-62)

Member Tri-Ess. Attended Texas T Party. MWM, early 40's, 5'6", 125, blue eyes, slight build. Interested in golf, fishing, Corvettes, shopping, and dressing. "Finally out and loving it. Have become quite passable. Flew to Texas dressed. Like to correspond with others. Travel and select outings possible."

JILL S. (WY-2881-64)

Member Tri-Ess. 38, 6', 200. MW hetero CD. Interested in golf, basketball, needlework, woodworking. "This is my first listing. I'm just beginning to accept the fact that I'll always be a crossdresser. I'll answer all letters as soon as possible."

MICHELLE INGLE (WY-P-3332-63) M. Ingle, P O Box 3285, Gillette WY 82717-3285

Attended Coming Together. MWM, 34, 5'7", 140. Interested in movies, rock 'n' roll music, dancing, shopping, fashionable clothing. "Wife supportive and under-standing. Enjoy going out as Michelle when I can. Would like to meet, correspond, and exchange photos."

IDAHO (832- 838-)

RENEE W. (ID-NP-3586-63), P O Box 3581, Boise ID 83703

Member Tri-Ess. SWM hetero TV, 31, 5'10", 175. "Enjoy all aspects of feminine lifestyle and am passable. Want to meet others like myself who live close enough to get together. Would like to share letters and photos with all sisters. Enjoy my classy wardrobe and going out."

WANDA S. (ID-3238-62)

SWM, 50. Interested in autos, fishing, reading, and music. "Starting to more thoroughly explore my femininity. Would like to meet/correspond with other TV/TSs in ID, OR, WA, area."

DAVI BRIGGS (ID-2078-64), P O Box 249, 3709 Chinden Blvd., Boise ID 83714

Single TV, TS tendencies, 5'11", 150, mid-40's, brown eyes, light brown hair. "Still like going to the mall. Sometimes I'll stay there all day. But, I wish I had a sister who would go with me. Enjoy water/snow skiing, roller skating, bowling, hooking rugs. Would like to meet or hear from other sisters from ID or OR that love doing the same things. Possible exchange of pictures and cassettes as well as letters."

UTAH (840- 847-)

KANDEE' STORRS (UT2726-64)

Member RCGSE. DWM, 37, 5'10", 180. Professional engineer, makeup artist (photo & special effects), P/T female impersonator. Interested in amateur radio, electronics, sci-fi movies, all forms of makeup, costuming, wigs, performing in shows, passing perfectly. "Would love to meet GG, possibly performer, with similar interests for mutual improvement of our illusion and performance skills. Dream of owning own nightclub, classy shows, one day."

CHRISTY MILLER (UT-P-2816-64), P O Box 21041, Salt Lake City UT 84121-0041

Attended IFGE Coming Together Convention. Interested in shopping, travel, photography, cooking. "One can never have too many friends. Please write if you would like to be friends."

LEIA CHEIQUE (UT-3392-63)

Member of TCNE. MWM. Interested in dining out, mutual support, and enjoyment of CD activities. "Travel throughout US on business. Interested in contacts for social/support activities in all destinations where it will be accepted."

ARIZONA (850- 864-)

JENNIFER S. (AZ-1056-64)

DWM, 6', 170, 44, warm, sharing and caring. Interested in good food, music, cuddling, and dressing to the max. Good wardrobe--extensive lingerie, heels, wigs, make-up, etc. "Would like to meet other TV/TSs."

TOMMIE F. (E AZ-P-1158-64), P.O. B. 182, Safford AZ 85548-0182

Member Butterfly, Tri-Ess (Alpha Zeta). Attended Holiday En Femme, Be All, Coming Together, Texas T. Older TV, 6'1", 175, hetero. Interested in model railroading, military history, skiing, SCUBA. "Like too-short skirts and a bosomy look; real passion for heels, hose, panties, bras, and slips. Would like to correspond with TV sisters and exchange photos. Will answer all. Your photo gets mine."

PRISCILLA ANN S. (CTL AZ-P-2457-62)

SWM TV/CD, 63, 6'2", 195, 22T, retired. Graying, dedicated CD, loves all things feminine, dress to "age style" of approx. 50+.

"Strictly a closet TV. Would like correspondence or photo exchange with other mature TV/CDs (50-65+ age range). On quiet side, introvert, easy going. Will consider and discuss <u>any</u> aspect of mature TV/CD concomitant sexuality."

NORMA KAY ROGERS
(AZ-1570-63), P O Box 1232, Mesa AZ 85211-1232

DWM, 49, 5'5", 130, pre-op M-F TS. Craftsman, artist, and writer. Intelligent and philosophical, not religious. Love animals, museums, steaks and pasta, long drives, honesty, C-W music, and life's humor. Hobbies include sculpting, computers, guns, and make own clothes. "Precious possession is little red dachshund, Wu-Woo. No drugs, alcohol. Like to communicate with GG or TS for support in transition. Commitments possible."

CAROL DEARBORN
(S AZ-P-2509-62) Miss Dearborn, P.O. Box 1417, Tucson AZ 85702

Pre-op, never married, TS. Enjoys peace, revisionist/ conspiratorial history, unorthodox scientific/medical theory, children, hiking, nude beaches. "If I knew, years ago, of a TS sanctuary to escape to, the gospel of eliminating money, laws, and international boundaries; 'women are dangerous,' persons born breech (butt first) are different, and clothes and genitals don't make a Messiah . . . "

LEE REYNOLDS
(AZ-P-2514-63), P O Box 39354, Phoenix AZ 85069

Member Tri-Ess Alpha Zeta (IFGE Representative). Attended Holiday en Femme, Coming Together, Texas T Party. MWM, TV, 5'11", 170. Attractive, energetic, and imaginative, forever young. Enjoy writing and swapping en femme experiences. "Would love to have your photo in my album and your name on my writing list. Crazy about photography and writing about my CD experiences. Am a speech therapist and have a video about speaking like a woman."

CAROL MARSHALL
(S AZ-P-2577-63), P O Box 4246, Tubac AZ 85646

Member Alpha Zeta, Tri-Ess, Butterfly. Attended Houston '90 Tri-Ess convention, Texas T Party '91. 5'13", 200, 47, brown eyes and hair. Interested in cooking, reading, fashion, and talking. "Like to live full time as Carol, and want to write those who could discuss the ways to live TG. Have a very supportive spouse who would like to write to other supportive spouses. Am a friendly talker who can listen, too."

FRANCIS NIEZNAY
(AZ-P-2963-64)

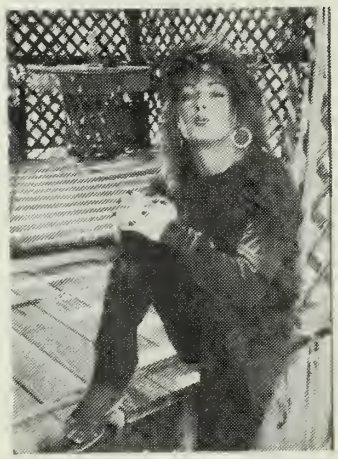
Member of A Rose, Alpha Zeta. 5'12", 175, 39 years forever young. Interested in power boats, sewing, cooking, photography, slot cars, sci fi movies, work. "Pre-op, out of closet TS. Not much of a conversationalist, but will try. Have been passing at local malls and bars. Electrolysis is painful."

LAURIE K. (AZ-2777-64)

TV, 5'7", 130, slender, feminine figure, pass easily, considered realistic and attractive. Enjoy creating the illusion of a sophisticated, fashionable woman who presents in good taste. Many interests including art, theater, literature, antiques, architecture, interior design, music, vintage wines, and fashions. "Love to meet and/or correspond with passable CDs in Phoenix area and other parts of the country. Not interested in men!"

SAMANTHA CORMIER
(AZ-P-3098-62), P O Box 82813, Phoenix AZ 85071-2813

Member of Alpha Zeta, Tri-Ess. Attended Fantasia Fair. Interested in reading, movies, music, camping, photography, and especially dressing up. "Would like to correspond with other sisters, or GGs. Open to meeting with a sister in Phoenix, even if only for a short time. Will write to all who include a photo."



TRISH T. (AZ-P-3320-62)
Occupant, P O Box 44711, Phoenix AZ 85064-4711

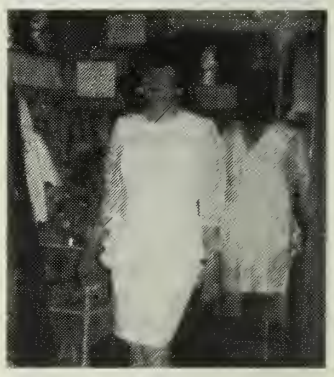
Member Tri-Ess, Alpha Zeta. 5'10", 150, 37, open-minded, friendly, good sense of humor, college degrees, now single, slightly vain. Former California girl loves the beach, sailing, snow and water skiing, sports, female beauty, oldies, movies, and fitness to maintain figure. "Gone out with friends to lunch, movies, and chapter meetings. Be my pen-girl. Send SASE for exchange. You won't be disappointed."

DAGNY TAGGART
(AZ-P-3268-63), P O Box 10064, Glendale AZ 85318-0064

Member Tri-Ess, Alpha Zeta. Divorced hetero CD. Interested in hiking, outdoors, camping, computers, and dogs and cats. "I'd like to correspond with and meet GGs who are interested in crossdressers. I'm 35, 135, 5'10", professional engineer, homeowner, open minded."

NEW MEXICO (870- 884-)

NEVADA (890- 898-)



GAIL F. (NV-P-3353-62)

Bi WM, 5'8", 150, hazel eyes, brown hair, passable. Advanced degrees in Philosophy. "Love camping and hiking, good wine and books, romance, intelligent conversation, fantasy ad writing, TV stories. Been out of the closet for 20 years. Very comfortable with all aspects of my sexuality, gender, and identity. Love women and enjoy men who appreciate my feminine side. New to area. Write all TVs,

ROBERT C. ALDEN
(NV-3213-62)

6'3", 204, 39, hetero, SBM. Attractive, college educated, and professional. Interested in photography, collecting and taping music, writing short stories and poetry. Love to cook, go dancing, and camping out. "Would like to correspond with and meet single pre-op M-F TS or feminine TV for quiet one-on-one get together. Send letter,

picture, and phone number. Will reply at once."

LORI B. (NV-P-3376-63) Boxholder, P O Box 72675, Las Vegas NV 89170

32, TS, 5'11", 160, pass well. Enjoy myself and consider myself very stable. Interested in business, writing, photography, gender studies, conversation, and developing my feminine image. "Have worked long to enable pursuit of female role. Have begun electrolysis and hormone therapy. Half-time in female role with extended periods full-time. Will soon seek employment in female role. Looking for friends for support,

CALIFORNIA (900- 960-)

WENDY PARKER (S CA-P-0390-63)

Member IFGE Board of Directors, PPOC, ETVC, NWGA. Participant Coming Together, Be All, Fantasia Fair, Texas T Party, Southern Comfort. TG, 40's, 5'9", 160. Interested in the history of our gender community. "Enjoy the company of women, free femme spirits, and other gentle souls."

BETSY B. (N CA-1104-64)

Member STVC, NWGA, SGA, RGA, Tri-Ess. Participant Dreams, Coming Together, Tahoe Femme Flings. DWM, older TV with long experience of crossdressing. "I enjoy depicting a well-dressed, dignified older lady befitting my age. Enjoy parties and association with other CDs. Will answer correspondence."

ELIZABETH N. JOHNSON (S. CA-P-1030-63)

Pre-op M-F TS, 30's, 6', friendly but shy television engineer. Passable with voice, mannerisms and body frame, but need makeup and hair styling tips. Interested in fashion, sales, indoor plants, singing opera, computers, bicycles. "Would like to befriend warm and sincere TVs, TSs. Write, call, send video or audio cassette."

MARLENE L. (S CA-P-1036-64), P O Box 4067, Visalia CA 93278

Member Tri-Ess, Alpha Chapter, National, and Tri Chi, Tulare, Ca. Attended Holiday en Femme '87, '89, received Special Service Award, Tri-Ess. 59, divorced, professional. Interested in tennis, motorcycle touring, cross-country skiing. "I help Carol Beecroft in the Tri-Ess National office."

SHARON LOUISE (C CA-1303-63)

Member Rennaissance. 5'6", 165, white hair, hazel eyes, ruddy complexion. "Been this way for most of my life. Everyone guesses some 10 years less than my actual age! Am well-read, former semi-pro baseball player, excellent bowler, good roller-skater, dancer, and conversationalist. Began wearing corsets at a very early age, but did not become a total CD until 30's. Love to correspond, and possibly meet others in my area."

LORRAINE ELLEN HALL (CA-P-1150-64)

Member ETVC. Pre-op TS, over 50. Some hormonal development. Lived full-time for short periods and planning full-time. Interested in art, photography, music, theater, movies, bridge. "Emerged from closet 5 years ago. I have surmounted many obstacles and my goal now seems to be within my grasp. I would love to hear from others who may share my dream and welcome their comments, advice, and questions."

CYNTHIA HOWARD (N CA-P-1453-62), Box 3392, Napa CA 94558-3392

Member E D Gender Alternatives League, IFGE Congress of Reps, NOW, ETVC, SGA, RGA, IMAGE, Tri-Ess. Founder, national executive director Gender Alternatives League. Genderist, author, publisher and lobbyist working as a woman with government agencies, minority groups, and educational institutions. "Working to unify our community, promote gender activism, get our community out of the psychiatric books and journals, and off this can-be-discriminated-against list. Will communicate as time allows."

ROXIE HOROWITZ (S CA-P-1636-62)

S TV, 43, 5'8", 155. "TV or not TV is not the question, it's the answer. The question is watching television vs. going out crossdressed. Throw out your anxiety and release inhibitions. My goal as a performer was a live, one person show. I run for physical health, speak for my mental health, and CD for my creative expression. End your frustration by becoming the opposite sex. I am a dragnut!"

DONNA LYNN FREEMAN (N CA-P-1664-63), P O Box 272885, Concord CA 94527-2885

Member DVG, RGA, Tri-Ess, ETVC. Co-Founder of Diablo Valley Girls. Participant Holiday En Femme, Pajaro Dunes, Coming Together '89, Dignity Cruise I. MWM hetero TV, 45, 5'9", 160, 16, warm, caring, sensitive; usually passable. "Enjoy good food, friends and conversation; computers, shopping and all things feminine. Lifelong CD, public for 4 years. Understanding and actively supportive wife."

ANN L. (CA-1840-64)

Member ETVC, RGA, Phoenix Rising, Neutral Corner. 140, 5'7", 39, M-F TS SRS in two years. Metropolitan nightlife, cosmopolitan lifestyle. "Seeking non-sexual meetings and correspondence with other TSs. Joint living and career opportunities welcomed. No men, please."

ROSALIND P. (CA-1876-63)

Member CHIC, PPOC, Tri-Ess.

Attended Be All, Esprit '91, Coming Together, California Dreamin'. 6'1", 180, late 50's. Interested in shopping, dining out, theatre, jazz music, meeting new people. "I am supported by my wife. We are involved in couples' support groups."

LYNN LAND (CA-P-1684-63), P O Box 2000-221, Corona Del Mar CA 92625

Tall, trim, athletic, educated, successful, 42. Interested in meeting S. CA women, TV/TSs that are intellectually interesting and physically very attractive. "Bi-TV with a very balanced, calm, successful lifestyle. Looking for very together females (Bi) and TVs that live rational, caring lives. Looking for stable, healthy, long term friends."

RACHAEL D. (N CA-P-1811-63), P O Box 56362, Hayward CA 94545-6362

Member ETVC in SF, RGA in San Jose, DVG in Walnut Creek. Participant Two Fantasia Fairs, two Texas T-Parties. 5'10", brown, blue, 51, pass well. Interested in all things feminine, computers, going out dressed with TV or alone, but best of all with my wife. "Recently married to an understanding woman who knew . . . best girlfriends and a wonderful wife. I'm smiling a lot of late!"

SARAH W. (N CA-NP-1727-64)

31, pre-op M-F TS, just starting process. "Want to make friends in the TV/TS community and learn from those who have completed SRS. Would also be interested in corresponding with intelligent men."

GLORIA B. (CA-NP-1897-64)

Member of ETVC. 6'3", 300. Interested in auto racing, photography. "Struggling to go out in public. Would like to hear from others in North Bay, Wine Country."

ELIZABETH BLAIR (S CA-NP-1927-64), P O Box 28041, San Diego CA 92198-0041

TV, 43, 5'10", size 18. Interested in shopping, cooking, photography, and all things feminine. "I travel the western states and enjoy meeting and writing other TVs, especially large sized sisters. Like to go out dressed with TVs to clubs, shopping, etc. Am married to a somewhat understanding wife."

MELISSA M. FOSTER (S CA-NP-2099-65), P O Box 816, Lakewood CA 90714

Attended IFGE Conventions, Texas Ts, Esprit, Holiday Enfemme, Southern Comfort. White TV, 5'10". "I travel the world and enjoy attending conventions. Enjoy corresponding and meeting other TV/TSs. I enjoy helping others, so drop me a note."

JAN N. (CA-P-2210-63)

Member PPOC. Attended Texas T Party '90. MWM, 5'11", hetero TV, 47. Interested in writing, movies, books, computers, cross-dressing, and everything feminine. Just married to an understanding, A+ wife. Would like to meet and/or correspond with other couples."

ARLENA ROSE (CA-NP-2273-65)

Member of ETVC. 5'6", brown hair, blue eyes, S, 39. Interested in cooking, reading, music, fashion, art, trying to be a better person. "Scared, lonely, and confused. Sound familiar? Am seeking someone to help me face and overcome these things and accept me in return. If you've written before, try again. I had a room-mate who stole my mail."

JANELLE AILENE SEXTON (CA-P-2327-65)

Member of ETVC, Diablo Valley Girls. Divorced, hetero, TV, 37, 6', 190, red hair, blue eyes. Interested in square dancing, period costumes, and simulated pregnancy. "Enjoy going out dressed as a woman."

ROXANNA R. (N CA-P-2350-62), P O Box 8182, Berkeley CA 94707

Member ETVC. Married TV, 6', 175, redhead or blonde. Open, supportive lifestyle and marriage. "Art is a lie, to reveal a deeper truth. I am a college-educated professional artist interested in correspondence and/or meetings with TVs, sincere men, and others to share a sense of mystery, illusion, and androgyny by CD as an art."

KAYLA ALLEN (CA-2459-62), P O Box 95, Sutter CA 95982

WM, TV, 26, 270, computer systems analyst. "My heavy involvement in science fiction fandom precludes much contact with the gender community, but am a sympathetic listener. If you are interested in both the science fiction fan community and its crossover with the gender community, drop me a line. I've appeared as Kayla at SF convention to do a Gender Benders of Fandom panel."

LEONA MARTIN (C CA-P-2505-62)

Member Tri-Ess. 65, 5'9", wife very supportive. "Love who I am, what I am, as well as gender sisters (TV/TS). I adore nice clothing, being buxom, and the soft, gentle aspects of femininity. I do turn exhibitionist for a camera. I would love photo sessions with others who are interested in self-improvement, sharing more than just fantasies. Will answer all."

MELANIE B. (SW CA-2566-67)

5'3", blue eyes, light brown hair, caucasian, 41, M-F pre-op TS. Facial electrolysis completed. On hormones one year. Interested in the arts, doll collecting, motorcycles, cooking, shopping, brainstorming, thrift stores, people, and museums. "Interested in F-M TS, pre-op or not, for friendship and possible long term relationship. No cigarets, drugs, or alcohol. Am dependable, hard-working, monogamous R.N. I'm agnostic, you?"

LORI CALLWAY (SW CA-P-2586-63), P O Box 64312, Los Angeles CA 90064

5'6", thin. Interested in old movies, 60's rock (esp. Beatles), reading history, mysteries, and photography sessions en femme. "I love being feminine, and being around others who share similar interests. But, it's more than just a physical thing, it's a state of mind. Interested in relationships with sincere people. Want to share experiences. Would love to meet GG/TS/TVs."

TRISH ANDERSON (CA-2599-62)

Member PPOC, Alpha Chapter, Tri-Ess. SWM TV, 33, 5'8", 150, Television Engineer. "Cute, friendly, energetic. Love computers, electronics, airplanes, music, and our community. Sysop for Cross-Connection computer Bulletin Board. Been out for about four years, and have come to love both selves and have begun to integrate them effectively. Ready to take on leadership roles in the community. Want to correspond and get together in the LA area."

BOB DAVIS (N CA-P-2620-64)

"Avid collector of TV, TS, CD books, periodicals, memorabilia, with a special interest in performers. There are over 100 books as well as too many magazines to count in my collection. Would like to correspond with other collectors to compare acquisitions. Will trade or sell. Want: Tapestry, prior to #39, Ladylike #1 and 2, Female Mimics International #38 and 39, and selected issues of Lee G. Brewster's Drag and Virginia Prince's Transvestia."

TOM WILLIAMS (CA-2637-64)

Single male, 48, 5'10", 180, brown blue. "Genuine nice guy, patient, intelligent, non-smoker, monogamous. Correspond, meet with passable ultra feminine, marriage-minded, stable girl-next-door to super sexy TV, she/male, pre/post-op TS, 5'7" or under who wants to live/share a real life. No pros or free rides."

JULIE B. (SW CA-2639-63), P O Box 8412, Northridge CA 91327-8412

Member Tri-Ess Alpha Chapter. Hetero male, CD, 5'8", 150. Interested in long walks, computers, sailing small boats, and world travel. "Married 15 years to an unusually understanding wife. Still working out small details. Like to correspond with sisters and wives, but be patient. Still hang out mostly at home, but do go to some Alpha meetings. Am quiet and shy, need to meet others."

CAROL LEE (CA-2798-64), P O Box 186, Bryn Mawr CA 92318

Married Oriental, 5'8", TV. Interested in photography. "Interested in dressing, shopping, long gowns, and meeting others, and corresponding with heterosexual CDs. Particularly want to pass even better. Would be delighted to meet anyone that could help in this area. Have been out a few times a year and pass well."

KRIS C. (C CA-P-2713-63)

TV, 5'8", mid-thirties, brown hair/eyes. Sensitive and caring. Interested in feminine fashions, shopping for clothing, music, computers, sports. "Have been a lifelong crossdresser who enjoys achieving the complete feminine look. Always open to advice on improving my appearance. Will try to help anyone who corresponds by writing/photos."

MICHELLE WREN HESS (C CA-NP-2769-63) M. W. Hess, 826 Orange Ave., Box 495, Coronado CA 92118

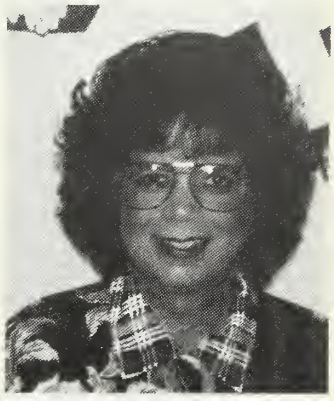
Member Neutral Corner. SWM with TS tendencies, 5'6", 145, 30, brown hair, green/brown eyes. Interested in stuffed animals, animation and comics, computers, and photography. "Looking to correspond with TV/TS/GGs for friendship and possible get-togethers. I answer all who write."

LUCY ANN JONES (CA-P-2833-64)

Member ETVC. Attend most events in Bay area. Blue eyes, long auburn hair, WF, 6'1", 180, post-op M-F TS (12-21-82) Biber Girl, 16T, self-employed computer consultant, voice coaching, and astrology. Enjoy music, dining out, pet lizards, and Siamese cat. "Pisces sun sign, moon, Scorpio rising, something with Aries. Bi-sexual lesbian in lesbian relationship with genetic female for eight years. Your SASE and photo gets mine."

KAREN D. (CA-2849-64)

Widowed, hetero, 65, 6', 200. Interested in all sports, especially golf, country/western music, and jazz. "Dress as often as I can. Love panties, bras, and slips. Wife died three years ago. Would die if any of my kids found out. Doubt if I will ever come out of the closet. Please write."



EVELYN J. SMITH (CA-NP-2864-65)

Member ETVC. Attended Fantasia Fair. Pre-op TS, 56, divorced, on hormones 3 yrs. Interested in classical and new age music, readng, photography, travel in North America. "Plan to return to school in fall '92 for an RN degree. Will live full time after graduation in 1994. Interested in correspondence with TSs who had SRS or went full time after age fifty."

JULIE ANN R. (CA-2892-64)

SWM, TV, 40, 5'8", 150. Still closeted, but trying to come out. Interested in fashion, clothes, makeup, shopping, gardening, cooking, hairstyles, developing all aspects of my femininity. "I am quite content to have both male and female personas. I would enjoy meeting others. I am honest, sincere, and quick as possible with correspondence. Enjoy 'girl talk' through the mail, and possible meeting."

MELANIE HOWARD (CA-2899-64)

38, 5'11", 145, MWM, 12, CD with TG/TS tendencies. Enjoys dresses, skirts, heels, and most things feminine. Interested in gender dysphoria and its relationship in our culture. "I have accepted Melanie completely, and couldn't be happier

about it. Look forward to sharing with others and contributing towards a better understanding of gender issues in our communities. I enjoy all correspondence and will answer quickly."

CHELSEA BROWN (CA-NP-2934-65), P O Box 2025-364, Tustin CA 92680

Attended California Dreamin'. 34, 6', hazel eyes. Interested in computers, reading (and writing) TV fiction. "I have started going out en femme to malls and restaurants. Either I pass well, or Californians don't care! Either way, I'm loving discovering who Chelsea is."

MARYANNE S. (CA-P-3030-65)

Member ETVC, Rainbow Gender Alliance. 5'8", 160, 14, white TS, single, 42. Interested in science, especially astronomy, cooking, gardening, and music. "I am a reentry student in engineering and doing well thanks to a new sense of self-esteem, and thanks to support from my bi-gendered sisters and brothers. Although I am hetero oriented, I would enjoy corresponding with anyone from our bi-gendered community."

JOLYNN VEIRA (CA-3017-65)

DWM, 49, 5'7", 160, CD since early teens. Interested in art, computers, computer art and animation. "Since the way I prefer and like to dress is not acceptable by society, I have to restrict it to the privacy of my house. I will answer all correspondence."

LISA R. (CA-2926-64)

MWM, 5'10", 145, mid-thirties. Enjoy gardening, photography, and skiing. "Have crossdressed all my life. Just started going out. Interested in corresponding with others in LA area. Photo exchange and meeting."

SANDI BUELL (CA-2989-65), P O Box 1038, Bonsall CA 92003

MWM, hetero, CD, 60, 5'8", 145. Conservative dresser. Interested in photography, sailing, scuba. "Started dressing at age 12. Still striving to look as naturally feminine as possible. Married 30 years to wonderful woman who helps me select and obtain coordinated outfits, but can't participate. Love all things feminine, especially long, manicured nails, smooth legs, sheer hose, and pretty shoes."

JUDI BENSEN (CA-NP*-3063-65), P O Box 130, Midway City CA 92655-0130

6', 170, won't admit to over 37 years! Very athletic, MWM, heterosexual. Interested in cycling, anything feminine, spending precious time as Judy. "I'm just learning about myself and am seeking others to correspond with about our world. Wife has seen me dressed, but doesn't have full understanding. Don't bother with sex. Photo OK, but not required. Let's write about us."

JOSEPHINE C. (APO-SF-NP-3137-65)

"I'm a black hetero CD, 5'10", 185. Married to a loving Japanese woman who has become understanding to my need to crossdress. Very shy, and would like to come out of the closet. Due to the nature of my profession, I cannot. Enjoy mathematics, reading Japanese, computers, chess, and Japanese shogi. Would love to meet and correspond with CD/TV/TS/TG for friendship. Please write."

PEGGY D. (CA-P-3183-62)

MWM, hetero, 53, 154, 38-28-38, 6'2". "Peggy is a fun-loving gal who goes out shopping & dining alone, occasionally, and would love to have a passable friend nearby for company on trips to the malls. Peggy is sexy, but decent, and promises to answer all the mail she receives."

BILLIE JEAN JONES (CA-P-3205-62)

Member ETVC, DVG, RGA, SGA, CGNIE, SLCC. Attended ETVC Cotillion, Fantasia Fair, Miss ETVC 1992. Late 30's (like 45), 6', 150, children (23, 20), 2nd marriage (whadda year!), Androgyne, gender bender, numerous scars, offbeat personality. Interested in blabbing, writing, photography, music, discovering diversity, living fully, making a difference, laughing. Publish TV Guise - Contributors welcome. "This is my real life."

JESSICA J. (CA-3266-62)

41, 6'1", 190, San Diego resident. Attended Provincetown '91. Enjoy occasional outings, shopping, sharing experiences. "Wear party clothes, breezy items, and sissy look. Travel frequently. Don't pass on outside, but very comfortable within."

PATRICIA M. (CA-P-3248-62)

Member ETVC. 5'6", 140, SWM, brown hair, green/brown eyes, bi TV, 12-14, lean, athletic body. Commercial artist/fashion illustrator. Interested in art, fashion, drawing, music, travel, movies, theater, aircraft (former pilot). "Love being a woman. Fairly passable and would like to meet TV/TS for companionship/dating. Like to go shopping and day trips in the SF area. TS is my goal. Enclose photo/phone."

DAINA H. (CA-P-3325-62)

Member Tri-Ess. Attended Holiday En Femme '91, California Dreamin' '90. Attractive, passable hetero TV who is extremely feminine in all aspects - voice and mannerism. Loves day time (and night time) outings. Travels extensively.

SUZANNE A. (CA-3172-62)

SWM, 32, 6'2", 200 and losing. Well educated, working toward M. Degree. Interested in the arts, sports, cars, staying fit through aerobics, tennis, and bicycling. (No more weight-lifting!) "Starting again after a five-year hiatus. Military. Back in US after five years overseas. Always been in closet. Previously CD in KY and TX. Your experiences convinced me to seek my true self once again - CD or TV. I'll let you know when I find out."

SALLY ADAMS (CA-3517-63), 7299 Orangethorpe Ave., Box 171, Buena Park CA 90621

Member PPOC. MWM, 5'7", 150, nonsmoker, enjoy good wine, mid-50's, friendly, sense of humor. Pretty man, prettier woman. Interested in music, shopping, travel, making friends, everything feminine. "Parents dressed me as a girl in early childhood. I nurtured that joy throughout school, marriage, and career. Wife not supportive. Pass well. Love to correspond."

PAIGE D. (CA-3307-62)

MWH, 5'11", 180. "Just out and still nervous. Would like to meet and hear from others new to the community."

BONNIE W. (CA-P-3390-63), P O Box 801416, Santa Clarita CA 91380-1416

40+, 6', 190. Interested in golf, tennis, cooking, shopping. "Able to be Bonnie 2-3 days per week. Wife not supportive at all. Mother started dressing me at early age. Still feel guilty sometimes. Will answer all who write. Please send photo if possible."

LINDA MARIE ADDISON (CA-P-3360-63)

M-F pre-op TS. 41, 5'11", red hair, blue eyes. Interested in my transition into femininity, shopping, theater, jazz, being out with friends. "Began '92 by living full time. Hormones for one year. Would like to hear from TS sisters for friendship and to share support on our wonderful but difficult journey."

JENNIFER MICHAELS (CA-P-3358-63)

5'10", 140, MWM, passable. Enjoy shopping, biking, surfing, going out as Jennifer. "Wife is aware, but currently not accepting. Would like to correspond with others and share insights on how to balance CD and family life. Enjoy trading advice and suggestions regarding dressing. Will answer all letters."

KAREN TAYLOR (CA-NP-3697-65) K. C. Taylor, P O Box 1335, Topanga CA 90290

27, 5'8", 140, African-Mexican-American-Indian CD with TS tendencies. "Have been dressing since my mom got me started as an infant. Am beginning to believe gender-ambiguous/gender-blending people may be the salvation of our planet (i.e., Berdache/healers). Need to hear from any who can help me work this out."

CATHERINE NORRIS (CA-3575-63), P O Box 16401, Beverly Hills CA 90209-2401

6'2", 180, 11, D hetero CD. International education, business executive, sensitive with sense of humor. Interested in literature, history, travel, climbing, SCUBA, flying, and crossdressing. "Looking for other TVs and females with whom to share this exciting feminine passion. Will reply to all."

HAWAII (& ISLANDS) (967- 969-)

LANI KEE (HI-P-2593-63), P O Box 6178, Kahului HI 96732

Attended Texas T Party '91, Holiday '90, '91, Coming Together '91. Hetero CD, 140, 5'10". Interested in working out, swimming, golf, music, and traveling. "I dress occasionally. Go out when possible. Will respond to all correspondence ASAP. General interest in other CDs all over."

TRACY ANN RYAN (HI-RP-2180-65) T. Ryan, 777 Kapiolani Blvd, Box #3114, Honolulu HI 96813

Member Hawaii Transgendered Outreach, President of same. Awards: Miss Femininity, Fantasia Fair, 1990. "M-F transgenderist living as a woman, but not attracted to men. Very active in local gender community. Don't have time to write to pen-pals, but will answer letters concerning our group or other items concerning the gender community and formation of groups elsewhere."

REBECCA ANN MATHIEU (HI-P-3518-63), P O Box 6018, Honolulu HI 96818

Member Hawaii Transgendered Outreach. Single TV. "Want to 'Be All I Can Be.' My children have completed their education, now it's my turn. Here I come. Love to hear from you. Wonderful beaches here to try your bikini. Come meet with our group. We have fun! Aloha to all my sisters."

CLARA ANN BULLARD (HI-P-0955-62), P O Box 1210, Kapaa HI 96746

Member Delta Chi chapter Tri-Ess. 6', 180, size 20. Interested in flowers, plants, and cooking. "Been dressing since a teenager. Have been out 'window shopping'-driving around most of life. I don't pass too well as a lady, but it's fun. Love feeling feminine, touching silk and satin, just girl things."

LANA A. (HI-3308-63), P O Box 22891, Honolulu HI 96823-2891

Asian, hetero, CD, 41, 5'9". Interested in all aspects of our wonderful feminine life-style. Yearning to achieve total feminine look. Still in closet. Anxious to go public. "Love to meet with, correspond with sincere, discreet CDs in order to enhance our female image. Will answer all letters."

OREGON (970- 979-)

RACHEL M. (NW OR-2654-62)

Single WM TV, 29, gorgeous and fun. "I want to meet friends in the Portland area for understanding and good times."

ELLEN SUMMERS (OR-P-0382-64), c/o NWGA, Box 4928, Portland OR 97208-4928

IFGE Board of Directors, Vice-Chrprsn Board of Directors, Chrprsn Nominations Committee. Member NWGA, ETVC, Emerald City. Awards "DREAM" Grand Dame '83, IFGE Trinity '91. 5'10", 185. "Been part of our community 17 years. Enjoy travel, big band era music, being Ellen, shopping for Ellen. Wish to help new girls. My family knows of Ellen, and understands."

JENNIFER M. (OR-P-2421-62)

Member NWGA. Awards La Femme Magnifique. 5'7", 138, enjoy

and fun. "I want to meet friends in the Portland area for understanding and good times."

RONI LANG (OR-NP-3599-64), c/o NWGA, P O Box 4928, Portland OR 97005-5066

Member NWGA. SWM. Interested in bowling, water skiing, snow skiing, photography, travel, dancing, theater. "Enjoy all activities as Roni. Enjoy being out and about in town. Have appeared on several television and radio talk shows. Captain of the bowling team."

JAN H. (OR-3554-63), P O Box 12581, Portland OR 97212

TS, not out yet, 20 years on-off hormones. 6', 170. On my way to doing it all. Interested in gardening, cooking, travel. "Anybody having upper body surgery - shoulders narrowed, ribs removed?"

FIONA MORRIS (OR-NP-3607-64)

Member NWGA. Attended Esprit '92. 5'7", 135, DWM, mid-age. Interested in sewing, cooking, computers, writing. "Lifelong CD, pass easily, enjoy all feminine activities, especially dining, theater, night life, and, of course, shopping. Welcome companionship of other CD/TSs. Health professional and knowledgeable about hormones for men. Formerly known as Jennifer M."

CAROL T. (NW OR-2702-63)

5'10", 190, brown hair/eyes. Interested in reading sci-fi and historical novels, sailing, and flying. "Still in closet. Would appreciate meeting local sisters for help in coming out."

KAREN PHILLIPS (OR-3158-62)

5'8", 165, hetero, 10, brown hair and eyes. Divorced. Interested in dressing up, heels, makeup, hair; camping, computers, golf, woodwork. "Just coming out. Want to meet other girls in the area and exchange ideas. Not passable, yet, but with a little practice, I'll be ready. Dying to go out!"

WASHINGTON (980- 994-)

KAREN KENT (NW WA-P-0322-63)

Member NWGA, RCGC. 49, 5'9", 183. "Friendly, came out of the closet in '81, and will never return. Have grown in the understanding of my feminine nature. Have written articles on CD and been on panel discussions. Enjoy meeting and writing to others."

SANDY S. (WA-P-1022-63)

Member Emerald City. Participant Esprit '90, '91, VP of Emerald City. 185, M, blond, blue eyes, 47. Interested in CD, boating, computers, camping, flying. "Enjoy going out and doing the town. Would like to meet others, wives too. Passable. Been to several very public affairs and look forward to more. Want to be accepted as the middle-aged lady I am."

JUDY OSBORNE (WA-P-1024-63), Box 19394, Seattle WA 98109

Member Emerald City, NWGA, Tri-Ess. Attended Fantasia Fair, Esprit '91. 5'11, 155, married. Enjoy sailing, reading, sports, cooking. "Love being a woman out in the world. Especially love sharing myself with a widening circle of family and friends."

AMY JO C. (W WA-P-1181-63)

Member Emerald City-Seattle. 5'11", black hair, hazel eyes. Enjoy lingerie, sexy nylons, high heels, anything feminine. "Would like to meet other TV/TS in the same area."

SHARON L. MORGAN (WA-NP-1303-63), 632• N. Sprague Ave., Tacoma WA 98403

Member Renaissance. 5'6", 165, white hair, hazel eyes. Interested in all sports, bowling, semi-pro baseball. "Lifelong CD with usual purges. Answer all letters promptly from anywhere in the world. Widower. No children. Good dancer, skater. Read history."

MICHELLE LEE H. (WA-P-1446-62)

Member Tri-Ess, Emerald City, NWGA, Boulton & Park, ETVC. Attended Holiday In Femme, Be All, Esprit, Texas T Party, Southern Comfort, Dignity Cruise. Interested in cooking, gardening, flowers, golden retrievers, golf, reading, music, shopping, reaching out, and annual Esprit week in the northwest.

JENNIFER MARTIAN (SW WA-1710-63)

Single M-F pre-op TS, 5'11", 170, brown/blonde hair, brown eyes. "It is very lonely here in Tri Cities, Washington. I would very much like to meet others."

MARY GIBBONS (WA-P-1826-63), P O Box 1151, Mercer Island WA 98040

Member Emerald City. Participant Tri-Ess Holidays, Fantasia Fair, Coming Together conventions. MWM, 50. Enjoy music, family, friendships, and thought. "Have season tickets to the opera and the ballet. Love having dressy events to plan for. Have developed close, accepting friendships, but always interested in more. Have an accepting family and strive for balance. Glad to correspond with all."

STEPHANIE NELSON (WA-2318-62), P O Box 15183, Spokane WA 99215

Hetero CD, 6'2", 160, 40,

brown hair, green eyes, professional. Interested in skiing, tennis, camping. "Would like to develop honest, sharing friendship, non-sexual. Would also like to pass in public. I would particularly like to hear from other CD, TV, or TS in Spokane area."

MELISSA LEEANN PRATHER (WA-P-2102-64)

Member Emerald City, Omega Alpha Tri-Ess, NWGA. 5'9", 190, 57. Interested in sewing and design art, calligraphy, scale model planes, stamp collecting, model railroading. "Have a supportive wife. We go out shopping together, and dine out. Have been out of closet three years. Want to build up friendships."

KAY CROSSLYN (WA-2796-64)

"I am an inventor and artist, age 48, with a sense of humor about my frequent desire to dress the female part. I'm interested in esthetics, psychology, spirituality, mythology, and the ideas of Carl Jung. I'd like to correspond with someone who would care to trade speculation about the spiritual meaning of crossdressing, and, among other things, how it might fit into the context of the Men's Movement."

EMILY THOMAS (WA-P-3119-65), P O Box 2799, Woodinville WA 98072-2799

Member Emerald City, Tri-Ess. Attended Esprit '91, '92. 5'7", 150, 50, brown hair and eyes. Interests, sewing, weaving, spinning, woodworking, computers, and reading. "Go out three or four times a month and pass, day or night. Like to meet other TVs who pass and would like to go out week nights. Like to correspond with others in NW."

KRISTEN A. LANGLEY (WA-NP-3560-64), P O Box 1627, Kent WA 98035-1627

Member Emerald City. 33, 6', 195, married, reasonably passable. Interested in Sci-Fi (Star Trek), photography, scale miniature railroading, and cartooning (Tapestry #58). "Have been dressing since age eight, but have only gone out in public for last three years. Wife is fairly supportive. Enjoy going out with friends, new and old, and corresponding with long distance friends. Very humorous."

JANET A. (WA-3322-62)

6'2", 185, slim, and want to be more feminine. Interested in gardening, doing nothing, eating out, helping others, and being a she/male. "Have crossdressed for many years. Would appreciate a woman who could accept and encourage a male to be feminine and have a woman to woman and male to woman relationship. Am considering hormones. TV with strong TS tendencies. Love you all!"

BONNIE H. (WA-NP-3561-64)

Member COS, Emerald City. SW TV/TG, 24, very passable, out of closet. Interested in music, photography, alpine meadows, beaches. "Would like to meet young TV/TS living in the northwest. Interested in going to clubs, lunch, and the beach en femme with girlfriends. Am a positive person looking for friends, a roommate, and to correspond with others in the US. Caring and understanding."

ALASKA (995- 999-)

NORA JEAN YORK (AK-P-1425-62), P O Box 203134, Anchorage AK 99520-3134

Member Berdache Society. Participant Coronation '89. "I'm fun, feminine, sincere, loving, sexy. I enjoy cooking, sewing, biking, and using my home computer. I enjoy watching videos and making them. I adore sexy clothing and lingerie. I am constantly working to bring forth the woman from within."

DONNA S. (AK-2247-62)

Member Berdache Society. Lifelong TV, 5'9", 35, 145.

"Enjoy being dressed en femme in public, short skirts, downhill skiing, hunting, and fishing. Will answer all letters."

SUSANNE TAYLOR (AK-2422-63)

MWM, 34, 6'3". "Still working at making it to a public function to continue my education as I continue to grow and understand about myself and life. Welcome all letters from others, and will promptly respond to same. Love being dressed and feeling free to be me."

MICKEY T. (AK-3179-63)

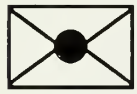
Member Alaska Alliance for Gender Education. MWM, TS, 6', brown hair, blue eyes. Interested in cooking and sewing. "Am a computer enthusiast wishing to correspond with others via BBS or mail. Believe the time is right for all to come out of the closet and stand up for our rights."

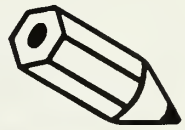
BOBBIE WENDY TUCEY (AK-3314-63)

49, married, TV, understanding grown children, Jewish, 5'5", brown hair, green eyes. Interested in skiing, flying, computers, art. "Have understanding wife. Love to be a woman as much as I can. Would like to meet others who are not happy with the sex they were born into. Am a metal sculptor."

DEBBIE R. (AK-NP-3625-63)

5'10", 175, 40, intense TS tendencies. Interested in dressing and being female. Caring for and sharing with others is very imprtant to me. "I've made great strides in advancing into the femme world over the last years, It has not always been easy, and I've made many mistakes along the way. I'd love to correspond with others."





CANADA

MICHELINE JOHNSON (ON CAN-P-0560-62), P O Box 9155, Stn. T, Ottawa, ON, K1G 3T9

Former TS, now happily post-op (May 1990). "Thank you all for your support and friendship in the past, and during my transition. I am no longer looking for new correspondence or friendship from within the gender community or from outside my home town (Ottawa). I need someone close at hand. Apologies to those to whom I did not write back, due to work overload. Love to you all."

YVETTE DUCHARME (CAN-P-1632-62)

Member Tri-Ess. Attended Fantasia Fair '89, '90, '91. Board member, Outreach Institute. Pre-op TS. 5'11", 175, S. Fortyish. Live alone. Interested in all femme things, fashion, makeup, travel, reading, big band music, walking, movies. "I enjoy corresponding very much. My femme personality is classical type. Would like to correspond, form new friendships, and help others."

Yvette D. (CAN-1632)

CAROLYN ALEXANDER (ON CAN-1087-64), Box 7115, Vanier PO, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1L 8E3

"I'm a 40-something attractive and sophisticated bi WMM CD, well and truly educated with a sensuous, caring attitude. I pass easily and love to be totally feminine. Looking for intimate friendship with readers having similar make-up who wish to meet or correspond."

ALLISON JENNIFER BRENT (AL CAN-P-1656-63)

Member Phi Sigma. MWM, hetero CD, 5'9", 170, mid 60's and very fit, brown hair, brown eyes. Interested in Big Band era music, racquet sports, hiking and canoeing. "I am married to a wonderful gal who is aware of my CD interests, but prefers to remain uninvolved. I enjoy dressing and making 'Allison' just as feminine as she can be."

GABRIELLE P. (ON CAN-2918-69)

63, 6'3", muscular, walk daintily in heels in spite of size. Interested in high fashion shoes & lingerie. "In order to meet other TVs, I operate a bed & breakfast inn in my old schoolhouse/home in Singhampton. I love people to drop in."

MINA C. (QUE CAN-2955-65) Mina & Princess Shelba, P O Box 664, Beaconsfield, QUEBEC, Canada H9W 5V3

6', 170, TV, with very supportive wife. "Our interests are varied. We travel frequently. We enjoy fantasy development and role playing as part of our 'Rituals of Belonging.' Although I am passable, we are looking for methods to further increase my femininity. Interested in couples and select individuals who share our aspirations. Discretion expected and assured."

ROBYN V. (CAN-P-2449-62)

MW hetero TV. 46. Professional. Interested in boating, theater, music, skiing, and travel. "Looking forward to hearing from other TV/TS's to share experiences in our insatiable quest for femininity. I enjoy venturing out publicly in conservative dress and makeup. The utmost discretion appreciated and assured."

CHRISTINE B. (BC CAN-P-2474-63)

Married, 40, 6', 165, TS oriented, with supportive wife. "My primary interests lie in raising my children, fulfilling relationship with my wife, and exploring the potential of my career. Having read Kyndel Kellis' article in Issue #55, I have embraced the concept of Berdache. Have only been out dressed twice. Need clear understanding of the legal ramifications of being read before pushing my luck. Would appreciate feedback."

ROBERTA S. (ONT CAN-3134-62)

5'8", 250, full beard. Interested in baseball, football, dressing at home. "At a crossroads in life. At forty-nine, experiencing a breath of fresh air. This decision might cause the break up of my fifteen-year marriage. My wife knew about my wearing panties and disapproved. When she finds about the rest, all hell is going to break loose. Hope to find someone able to help me find my way as a hetero crossdresser."

ERICA JAYNE R. (CAN-P-3323-62)

Attended 1988 Coronation Ball in Vancouver. 5'10", 170, single. Friendly, fun, and outgoing. Interested in flying, motorcycling, all things feminine. "Love going out as Erica. Friends know about her. Looking for people for friendship and girl-talk. Open, honest, and discreet. Would like to hear from others, especially in the Vancouver and Seattle area. Photo and phone appreciated."

BROOKE ROBERTS (CAN-NP-P-3359-62), 101,601 17 Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T2S OB3

Member Tri-Ess, Illusions, Calgary. Attended Esprit '92. Interested in reading, skiing, traveling, makeup and dressing. MWM, 6', 165, supportive wife. Frequently travel western Canada and northwest US. Also eastern Canada and US occasionally on business. "Enjoy going out dressed and meeting TV/TSs and females during my travels. Will also correspond."

JENNIFER BLAKE (CAN-P-3385-63), P O Box 66583, Stoney Creek P O, Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada, E8G-5E5

Married, hetero, extremely supportive wife, 27, very passable, love to go out and enjoy myself as a female. Interested in writing stories, fiction and non-fiction, shopping, and helping other to enjoy the feminine lifestyle. "Married in 1990 en femme, written book about experience, and produced a video helping other sisters with makeup and showing my entire wardrobe. Would love to hear from other sisters who are in need of a friend and love to write."

KAREN W. (CAN-3140-62)

Hetero CD, 5'9", 145, 40, coming out again. Interested in books, stockings. "Been a crossdresser since I was a teenager. I enjoy the feel of stockings against my legs. Looking forward to getting out more as a woman."

ROXANNE VAN NESS (CAN-NP-3711-65)

SWM, hetero, 45, 5'10", 165, 12, blonde with blue eyes. Interested in writing poetry, plays, etc.; sketching; photography; music; movies (esp. Disney); reading; sports; and things feminine. "CD again for two-and-a-half years after lapse of twenty years. Not beautiful, per se, but attractive with proper grooming. Wish to correspond with caring girlfriends for guidance with feminine evolution. Letters and photos, please."

MELISSA H. (CAN-3549-63)

26, 5'11", blonde, blue eyes. Working toward a Bachelor of Fine Arts in photography. "Just coming out of the closet and seeking a support community. Wish to meet new friends for mutual support. I like fashion, listening to music, and reading just about anything."

KRISTY BEVERLY LYNN (CAN-3502-64)

W, 5'9", 180, clean, nonsmoker. Interested in carpentry, model railroading, architecture, horseback riding, swimming, travel. "Enjoy nonsexual pleasure of feminine expression. Shy, seek long-term relationship with clean, white female. Intention matrimony, love, and guidance. Prefer Chicago or Charlotte."

ANGEL RICHARDS (CAN-3715-64), P O Box 535, Kamloops, BC, CANADA V2C 5L7

Member of Dreamgirls. Attended Esprit '92. S, brown hair, blue eyes. Interested in cooking, art, makeup, classic rock and roll. "Would like to correspond with others."

MEXICO

LAURA MORENO (MEX-P-2670-63)

Attended Fantasia Fair. Separated WM, 40, 5'10", 140, brown hair and eyes. Interested in dancing, cooking, music. Work in the human sexuality field giving workshops and courses. "Lifelong CD, passable at times (too tall for a Mexican girl). Just coming out of the closet and trying to join or form a TV/TS group in Mexico City for mutual support. Want to help people to avoid having to go through what I went through. Where are you my Mexican sisters?"

UNITED KINGDOM

CELIA S. (ENG-1904-64), P O Box 1351, London N16 7XX, England

Member Beaumont Society, Gender Dysphoria Trust (UK). Widower, 5'9", 145. Occasional TV from age 4 to partner's death. Now getting more deeply involved. Interested especially in language and music. "Would like to receive audio tapes in exchange for my 'first and second voices' tape."

ANNE FORRESTER (SCOTLAND-P-2791-64)

Member Scottish TV/TS Group, Grampion Gender Group. Attended Coming Together, Fantasia Fair. Hetero CD, separated, 61 going on 40. Writer and editor (Ph.D.). Travel, read, and write. Edit The Tartan Skirt. Live 50% as a woman. "Conservatively dressed lady who loves heels, hose, and ballgowns. Pass well. Often travel dressed. Willing to help. Like to hear from sisters in Europe and sympathetic genetic women."

KAREN BARCLAY (ENGLAND-P-3191-62), P O Box 449, Reading, RG1 5AT ENGLAND

Tall, slim, dark-eyed TV. 25. Live with understanding girlfriend. Interested in Aikido, F&SF, movies and dining out. "I have crossdressed for twenty years, so I hope I've got the hang of it by now. Am caring and discreet, and would love to hear from you. Please write."

EUROPE

HELEN S. (FRANCE-2178-62)

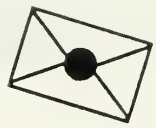
Member Trans-CCL (Paris). TV, 57, 5'11", blonde. Enjoy everything feminine. Interested in classical music, arts, reading, biking. "I especially enjoy writing or meeting with sisters and understanding ladies. Wish contact with other European members."

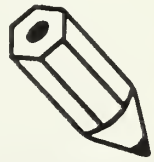
YVONNE THOMPSON (GERMANY-P-3050-65)

Hetero TV, 5'9", 158, reddish brown hair, almost passable. Interested in photography, jazz of the 40's and 50's, traveling. "I enjoy any opportunity to be Yvonne. I like fine lingerie, ladylike clothing, pretty shoes, and perfect makeup. Wife does tolerate, but is not supportive. Have been dressed up many times in public. Would like to correspond with sisters in Europe and in the USA."

CLAUDIA R. (GERMANY-NP-3566-63)

Member Transidentitas, ABC of France, Beaumont Society. TV, 33, 6'4" (193 cm), S, still looking for a supportive partner. Interested in computers, cooking, instrumental music, writing for TV publications, travel, meeting other TV/TSs worldwide. "Have problem appearing in public due to height. Nevertheless, I sometimes go shopping, to a restaurant with friends. Much knowledge of the German TV/TS scene. Could offer accomodation. Love to correspond."





EVA K. (GERMANY-NP-3749-64)

Member Tri-Ess. 35, 5'8", 70kg., black hair, brown eyes, married, hetero TV. Interested in crossdressing, philosophy, sociology, feminism from the CD's standpoint. "Out of the closet, wife's best girlfriend. Like to have contact with TVs in partnership who are more interested in females than in the feminine. My wife wears my clothes."

JENNY SAND (NORWAY-P-2584-63)

Member FPE-Northern Europe. Attended Fantasia Fair '90, '91. TV, 38, 5'8", 120. Enjoys low-budget world travel, meeting warm, open-minded, humorous people. Interests include literature, music, art and film. "Love to feel feminine. Go out dressed with friends and other club members as often as I can. Interested in hearing from anyone, especially sisters in Europe. Please, write!"

SUSANNE ANDERS (AUSTRIA-2774-64), P O Box 182, A-1210 Vienna, AUSTRIA

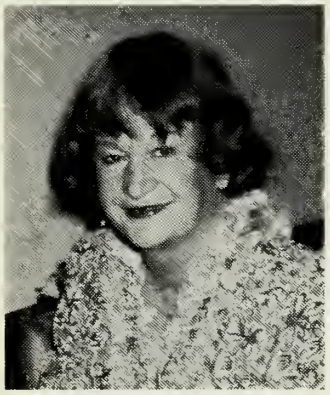
Member FPE SWEDEN. 52, 5'8", 180. Middle aged, 16/18, quiet CD since almost forever. Interested in travel, camping, music, cosmopolitan interests, fashion. "I would like to communicate with other CDs or interested people. Am married, supported, but not understood. Have participated in meetings in Sweden and in the USA."

AUSTRALIA

MARINA LANG (AUS-0693-63), G.P.O. Box 1177K, Melbourne, 3001 AUSTRALIA

Member Seahorse Club of Victoria. Participant Cup Eve Ball, Arts Ball. TS, 194 cm (6'4"), blonde. Enjoys classical music, oil painting, theater, concerts, eating out in restaurants, fashion, and dress design. "I would like to hear from other very tall IFGE members."

HONG KONG



ROSEMARYMARYON LANGTON (HONG KONG-P-1792-63), G.P.O. Box 9171, Hong Kong

Member Beaumont Society, Tri-Ess, TV/TS Society England. MWM, 59. Interested in Victorian, Japanese, maternity, and little girls' clothing. Dressmaking, entertaining TVs, and correspondence world-wide. "Lifelong, dedicated TV. Have enjoyed my dual life since I came out in '61. Spouse and adult family accept. All facial hair gone, can style own hair. Pass easily. Retiring soon, looking forward to visit TVs and events world-wide."

JAPAN

JOYCE D. CHAMPION (JAPAN-P-3272-63)

5'8", 155, 30. Lifelong TV with TS tendencies. Interested in empowering others to achieve their lifetime goals. BS in Education. Enjoy intelligent, provocative conversation. Thrilled by lingerie, high heels, beautiful nails, silk and frou-frou. Love to dance, write music, sing, play piano, and do domestic chores while en femme. Travel to the States a couple of times a year. Discretion expected and assured. Photos welcome."

JOAN C. (JAPAN-3083-65)

Black, heterosexual, TV, 5'10", 185. "Married to a loving Japanese woman who has become understanding of my need to crossdress. Am very shy, and would love to come out of the closet, but the nature of my profession prevents it. Enjoy mathematics, reading Japanese, computers, chess, and Japanese shogi. Would love to meet and correspond with CD/TV/TS. Please write."

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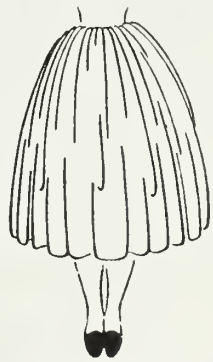

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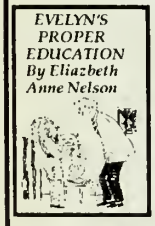

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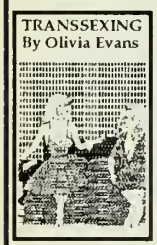
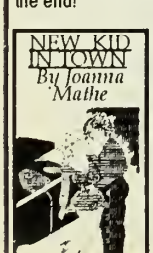


TRANSSEXING By Olivia Evans John Wilkenson was working the summer months at the Tri-Cities Moving & Storage Company warehouse in order to earn enough to pay for his college tuition. From time to time the company sold off items left abandoned in its warehouse. On a whim John bought a large telephone booth size crate left abandoned by the Acme Prop and Makeup Company. Inside of this crate there was a machine designed to help actors by automatically applying make-up suitable for their roles, even for roles involving a change in sex, or 'Trans-sexing' as the instruction book called it. John's girl friend decides that it is a great idea for him to try transsexing, just so long as she can take his place as a man. Then she plans to make him pregnant and abandon him, taking the machine with her! If you think she has a strange sense of humor, discover what she *really* plans to do to him at the end!



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Christopher is the new kid in town when he transfers to Holly Vale High School. During his first day at school he meets Frank's gang of young toughs who humiliate him into being the school's sissy. Soon afterwards the girls in Frank's gang make poor 'Chrissy' attend classes as a girl! They then force him into asking his mother to help him dress up and attend a masquerade party as a famous female star. Then the real fun begins as poor Chrissy discovers that everyone seems determined to make him into a girl...

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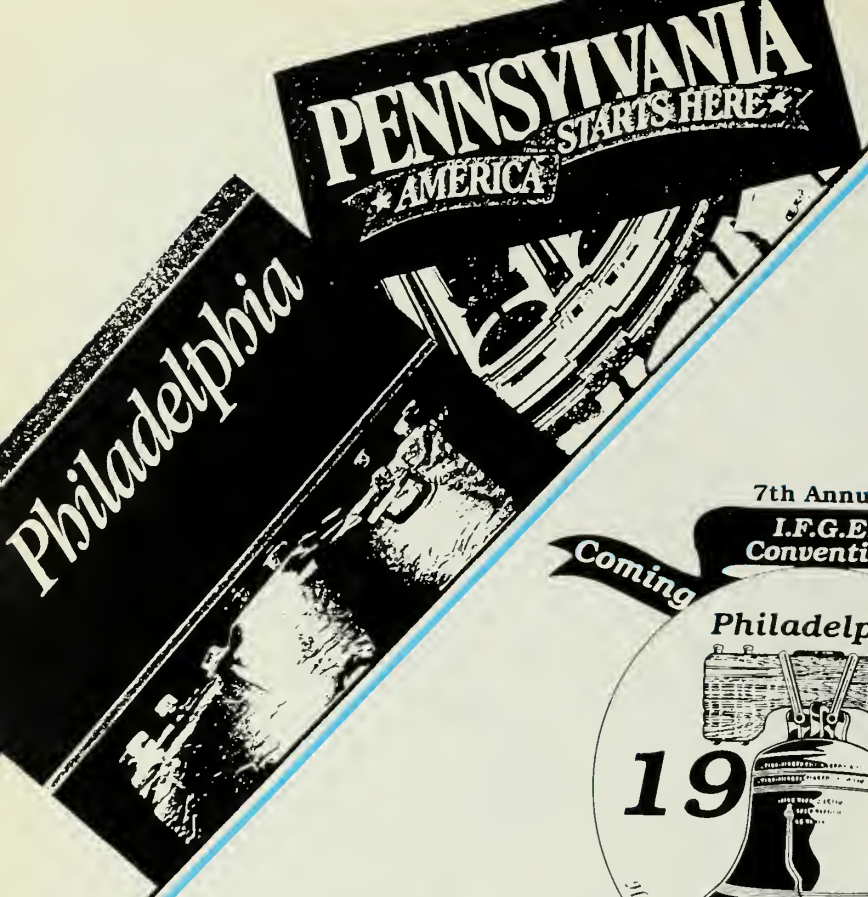

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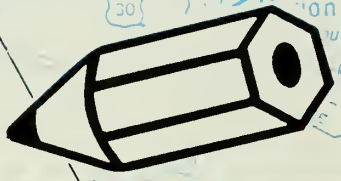

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